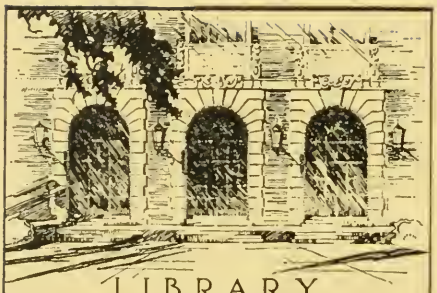

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Ill. Hist. Survey

BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL

RECORD

OF

LA SALLE COUNTY

ILLINOIS

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME I.

CHICAGO
THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY
1900

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PREFACE.

OUT of the depths of his mature wisdom Carlyle wrote, "History is the essence of innumerable biographies." Believing this to be the fact, there is no necessity of advancing any further reason for the compilation of such a work as this, if reliable history is to be the ultimate object.

The prominent section of the great Prairie state comprised within the limits of these volumes has sustained within her confines men who have been prominent in the history of the state and the nation from the earliest part of this century. The annals teem with the records of strong and noble manhood; and, as Sumner has said, "the true grandeur of nations is in those qualities which constitute the greatness of the individual." The final causes which shape the fortunes of individuals and the destinies of states are often the same. They are usually remote and obscure, and their influence scarcely perceived until manifestly declared by results. That nation is the greatest which produces the greatest and most manly men and faithful women; and the intrinsic safety depends not so much upon methods as upon that true and normal development from the deep resources of which proceed all that is precious and permanent in life. But such a result may not consciously be contemplated by the actors in the great social drama. Pursuing each his personal good by exalted means, they work out this as a logical result.

The elements of success in life consist in both innate capacity and determination to excel. Where either is wanting, failure is almost sure to result. The study of a successful life, therefore, serves both as a source of information and as a stimulus and encouragement to those who have the capacity. As an important lesson in this connection we may appropriately quote Longfellow, who said, "We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while we judge others by what they have already done." A faithful personal history is an illustration of the truth of this observation.

In this Biographical and Genealogical Record the editorial staff, as well as the publishers, have fully realized the magnitude of the task. In the collection of the material there has been a constant aim to discriminate

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carefully in regard to the selection of subjects. Those who have been prominent factors in the public, social and industrial development of the county have been given due recognition as far as it has been possible to secure the requisite data. Names worthy of perpetuation here, it is true, have in several instances been omitted, either on account of the apathy of those concerned or the inability of the compilers to secure the information necessary for a symmetrical sketch; and even more pains have been taken to secure accuracy than were promised in the prospectus. Works of this nature, therefore, are more reliable and complete than are the "standard" histories of a country.

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Ralph Plumb

BIOGRAPHICAL AND GENEALOGICAL RECORD.

RALPH PLUMB.

A THIRD of a century has passed since this gentleman arrived in Streator, and he is justly numbered among her leading citizens, his labors having contributed largely to her upbuilding and prosperity. His is an honorable record of a conscientious man, who by his upright life has won the confidence of all with whom he has come in contact. He has reached the age of more than four-score years, but though a long and busy life has whitened his hair he has the vigor of a much younger man, and in spirit and interests seems yet in his prime. Old age is not necessarily a synonym of weakness or inactivity. It need not suggest, as a matter of course, want of occupation or helplessness. There is an old age that is a benediction to all that comes in contact with it, that gives out of its rich stores of learning and experience, and grows stronger intellectually and spiritually as the years pass. Such is the life of Colonel Ralph Plumb, an encouragement to his associates and an example well worthy of emulation to the young.

It is always interesting in biographical research to note something of the ancestry from which one springs and to take cognizance of the characteristics of the family, watching the continuous display of certain traits of character through many generations. A most complete history of the Plumb ancestry is obtainable, the line being traced back in England to the year 1500, and in this country to 1635. Back of these records Plumbs are found—mostly through their wills—through all the centuries to 1180, A. D., in the great rolls of Normandy, thus showing Norman ancestry in the time of Henry II., the great-grandson of William the Conqueror. The first representative of the family in America was John Plumb, who crossed the Atlantic from England in 1635, locating in Wethersfield, Connecticut. He served in Captain Mason's command during the Pequod war, and received a grant of land for his services. Only one of his children was born in America, and no record of any exists except that his son Samuel lived with him in Branford when he died, in 1648. It was from this John Plumb and another who came in 1660 and left descendants that the American branch of the Plumb family

sprang, and they have been prominent in the civil and military life of the country ever since. They have been a race of warriors and statesmen, and have been notable and forceful in all the emergencies of their several generations. There were forty representatives of the name in naval and military service during the war of the Revolution. This family was also worthily represented in the war of the Rebellion, and in times of peace has served its country in a most creditable manner. Ebenezer Plumb, the grandfather of the Colonel, was a native of Massachusetts, and fought for the liberty of the colonies. Taking a very prominent part in church work, he was familiarly known as Deacon Plumb, on account of holding the office of deacon for many years in the old church at Stockbridge, Berkshire county, Massachusetts. Theron Plumb, the father of our subject, was born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, August 17, 1783, and having arrived at years of maturity he married Miss Harriet, daughter of Samuel Merry, of Herkimer county, New York.

Colonel Plumb of this review is a native of the Empire state, his birth having occurred in Busti, Chautauqua county, March 29, 1816. In 1820 he was taken by his parents to Hartford, Ohio, where he spent his boyhood days, attending the common schools until fourteen years of age, when necessity demanded that he earn his own livelihood, and he put aside his textbooks. He entered upon his business career, being employed as a gardener, receiving the small sum of eighteen and three-fourths cents per day in compensation for his services. However, he applied himself diligently to his work and won the good will and confidence of his employer, Seth Hayes, who gave him a position in his store, conducted under the firm name of Richard Hayes & Company. Mr. Plumb remained there until he had attained his majority, and in the meantime he improved his education as opportunity offered, devoting much of his leisure time to study.

When he had reached man's estate Mr. Plumb entered into partnership with his employer, under the firm name of Hayes & Plumb, and an extensive trade was enjoyed by them. They extended their business by establishing branch stores, and Mr. Plumb gave evidence of his superior business ability by personally superintending three stores in a successful manner. Thus with the passing years he grew in influence and in affluence, and his fellow townsmen, appreciating his worth, called him to public office. In 1854 he was elected to the Ohio legislature, where he served for three sessions. About that time he disposed of his business interests in Hartford and removed to Oberlin, in order to provide his children with better educational privileges.

In 1858 he was an active factor in an episode that has become historical and that clearly proved his position in regard to the slavery question. A fugitive slave, John Price by name, had gone to Oberlin and secured work.

His master, learning of his whereabouts, sent a slave-catcher to capture him and take him back to Wellington, a place nine miles away, where an officer with papers for his arrest awaited him. Fearing that Price might recognize the slave-catcher, two strange men were sent and told him that a gentleman wished to hire him. With the trusting disposition of the negro, fearing no treachery, Price accompanied the men. Oberlin then became the scene of wild excitement, the anti-slavery people being greatly roused by the injustice of the methods that had been pursued. Five hundred strong, they rescued the slave and sent him off to Canada. Mr. Plumb, with thirty-six others of the party, was arrested and thrown into jail. For eighty-four days they were incarcerated, during which time Mr. Plumb, with the assistance of two of his fellow prisoners, established and edited The Rescuer, an anti-slavery paper, even printing the same in the jail, where one of the party, owning a press and being a printer, did the work. This paper had a wide circulation and the arrest and imprisonment of those thirty-seven men caused the wildest excitement in the county and state. They were anxious for and demanded a trial. The town, county, state and even the federal government did not know what to do with them; they were a veritable white elephant on the hands of the authorities. During the legislative career of Mr. Plumb he helped to secure the passage of a bill defining the crime of kidnaping, and of this the citizens of Oberlin took advantage at this time and had the two men who inveigled the slave into the hands of the officers arrested for kidnaping him. This was like a thunder-clap out of a clear sky to the authorities and brought them to time; and they opened negotiations with the prisoners for their release, being secretly glad to get rid of them. They were released in consideration of the kidnapers' not being prosecuted. During these eighty-four days of incarceration the thirty-seven prisoners were the heroes of the hour. Their imprisonment was a continuous reception, people coming from all parts of the country by the thousands to visit them and encourage them in the stand they had taken against oppression and injustice. At last the prison doors were opened with eclat and the prisoners welcomed with a band of music and the salute of one hundred guns.

Mr. Plumb continued a firm advocate of anti-slavery principles; and, being a strong advocate of the Union cause at the breaking out of the war of the Rebellion, he received the appointment of assistant quartermaster of a division, with the rank of captain. He was quartermaster on the staff of James A. Garfield, and was one of the General's closest friends and warmest admirers and served with him until the General became chief of staff for General Rosecrans. During the latter part of the great struggle he was quartermaster of Camp Dennison, and was brevetted colonel for meritorious

service. During his service as quartermaster he handled immense sums of money without the loss of a dollar to the government, and at the close of the war he returned to Oberlin with a most honorable record.

Since the year 1866 Colonel Plumb has been identified with the interests of Streator, and to no man does the city owe its upbuilding, improvement and progress in a greater degree. He was chosen by a large syndicate of capitalists to become their resident manager at Streator, and he purchased for them four thousand acres of coal lands. Under his supervision the development of the mines was commenced, and four hundred miles of railroad was built in order to provide shipping facilities for the output. The marked business and executive ability of Mr. Plumb was manifest in the success which attended the new enterprise from the beginning. It yielded handsome financial returns to the members of the company and brought to Mr. Plumb a deserved prosperity. He founded and laid out what is now the city of Streator, personally giving every street its title, and naming the place in honor of Dr. Streator, who was president of the syndicate of which Colonel Plumb was manager. From the beginning our subject has been most closely identified with the progress and improvement of the place and has aided materially in its development. The leading hotel of the city bears his name, as does the opera house, and at his own expense he built one of the finest high-school buildings, furnished with all modern conveniences for educational purposes, and presented it to the city. It was erected and equipped at a cost of more than forty thousand dollars, and is one of the finest in the state. No public enterprise of Streator has solicited his aid in vain. His co-operation with movements tending to promote the general welfare has been hearty, generous and prompt, and often he has been the leading spirit in measures that have advanced the material, social, intellectual and moral interests of the community.

In his political views Colonel Plumb has always been a stanch Republican, unfaltering in support of his party, and in addition to serving in the state legislature of Ohio he was Streator's first mayor, holding the office for two terms. His administration was of great value, and he ever exercises his official prerogatives for the benefit of the city. In his elections to the mayoralty he was the unanimous choice of the citizens, having no opposition. In 1884 he was elected to represent his district in congress, was re-elected in 1886, and after four years' service retired to private life.

While prominently connected with public affairs and occupied by extensive business interests, Colonel Plumb is a man of domestic tastes, and his interest has ever centered in his home, his family relations being ideal in character. In 1838 he married Miss Marrilla E. Borden, one of the friends of his early youth. She resided in Hartford, Trumbull county, Ohio, a

daughter of Philo Borden, who was a native of New England and was of Puritan descent. He was a farmer, a captain of the state militia, and at one time the postmaster of Hartford. Mrs. Plumb was born September 16, 1818, and by her marriage she became the mother of three daughters, who grew to years of maturity, but are now deceased. The eldest, Geraldine, passed away July 1, 1875; Harriet Eliza died January 24, 1861; and Francenia M. was called to the home beyond February 11, 1872. On the 15th of October, 1898, Mr. and Mrs. Plumb celebrated the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage, having throughout that long period traveled life's journey together, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity.

A contemporary biographer has said: "Mrs. Plumb is as popular in Streator as is her honored husband. She is a lady of beautiful character, in which the twin virtues of charity and benevolence shine with a light which has made life easier and happier for numbers of people. She is a patron of the Ladies' Library at Streator, and for eighteen years has furnished it a home, rent free, in the Plumb opera-house block. She was in sympathy with her husband's anti-slavery principles and has done much for the colored race, donating liberally to southern colleges, among which is the Freedmen's College and the Fisk University at Nashville, Tennessee, and various other institutions of learning. So broad is the charity of this noble woman that she seeks to help the deserving poor, even to the extent of giving pleasure as well as assistance. She and her husband have donated liberally to the college at Oberlin, Ohio, where her daughters were educated, and is a stanch supporter of the Good Will Church of Streator, as its treasury will show. She is a member of no one church, but a firm believer in all religions, regardless of creeds. She is a womanly woman and much beloved by her own sex, and has hosts of friends, among whom there are many who owe her a boundless debt of gratitude for help and sympathy, as well as financial aid given in times of trouble and distress."

Colonel Plumb has for some years practically lived a retired life, yet in a measure superintends his investments. His has been a very active career, and the rest which he is enjoying in his palatial home in Streator is well merited. He has left the deep impress of his individuality upon almost every department of the city life wherein honorable men find an interest, and the beautiful and enterprising city may be said to be a monument to the diligence and ability of the founder.

THOMAS DEAN CATLIN.

It has been practically within the latter part of the nineteenth century that the northern portion of Illinois has been opened to the advance of civilization, and the cities of this division are the product of the latter-day enterprise and progress. Ottawa, belonging to this class, is mentioned in the Gazetteer as "the seat of varied and useful activities;" and among the prominent men who have helped to make it such stands the gentleman whose name heads this review. He has been identified with this region for more than forty-one years, and is to-day the representative of some of its leading industries.

Thomas Dean Catlin is a native of Clinton, Oneida county, New York, born March 12, 1838. His parents were Marcus and Philena (Dean) Catlin. His father was a professor of mathematics in Hamilton College, at Clinton. He was of English descent, and his death occurred in 1849. On the maternal side Mr. Catlin descends from an old historic family of the Empire state. His mother comes of a family that founded Deansville, New York. In 1795, on the site of that town, lived the Brotherton Indians, and in that year John Dean, a Quaker, went to the place as a missionary to labor with and for the red men. For a year he lived in a log house, and then erected what is now the wing of the residence owned by Charles Hovey. There he faithfully continued his work until life's labors were ended, and he passed peacefully away in 1820, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He had a son, Thomas Dean, who likewise was devoted to missionary work among the Indians. He had been his father's assistant, and when the latter died he continued to labor toward civilizing the red men. He was a man of herculean proportions and of great ability and sound judgment. He was not only the Indian agent but was also a counselor, spiritual guide and general law-giver, and was largely instrumental in transferring the Brotherton Indians to a reservation at Green Bay, Wisconsin. He secured the appropriation of sixty-four thousand acres from the government, and also secured the passage of a law through the New York legislature which enabled the Indians to sell their lands at full value. From 1830 to 1840 his time was entirely taken up with locating his dusky friends in their new home and in adjusting business matters for them, and, wearied by his great toil, death came to end his arduous service, in June, 1842, when he had reached the age of sixty-three years. He was scrupulously honest, and his career, both public and private, was above reproach in every particular. He had the love and reverence of the Indians, and the confidence and highest regard of all with whom he came in contact. At the time when

a petition was circulated for the establishment of a post-office at another place in the vicinity, he went to Washington and secured the office for Deansville instead. He became its first postmaster, and the office and the village were named in his honor. He had five children, and among this number was Mrs. Philena Catlin.

Her son, Thomas Dean Catlin, acquired his education in Hamilton College, at Clinton, New York, being graduated at that institution in the class of 1857, at the early age of nineteen years. He still belongs to the college society known as Sigma Phi. Upon the broad fields of the west, with its unlimited opportunities, he entered upon his business career. In 1858 he came to Ottawa, Illinois, to meet by appointment his uncle, A. H. Redfield, of Detroit, who was acting as an Indian agent and was stationed at the head-waters of the Missouri river. It was his intention to go to that region; but, his uncle having been detained for a time, he meanwhile sought and obtained a position in the employ of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company, first as a freight clerk, receiving a salary of only four hundred dollars a year; but he soon afterward won promotion, and for five years served as agent, finally receiving sixty dollars a month—the highest salary he ever received from that corporation.

His connection with the establishment of telegraphic communication in the west certainly makes him worthy of a place in this history. It is said that rapid transit and rapid communication are the most important factors in civilization. Mr. Catlin is a pioneer in this enterprise. In 1863 he became the secretary of the Illinois & Mississippi Telegraph Company, which had been established in 1849, one of the first in the west. This company owned telegraph patents for several of the western states, controlling the business in this section of the country. It built various lines throughout the west, and in 1867 leased its lines to the Western Union Telegraph Company, thus forming the connecting link between the Atlantic and Pacific.

Many and varied have been the business interests with which he has been connected. He is a man of broad capabilities and resources, and his keen discrimination, sound judgment and business sagacity enable him to carry forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes. He is an able financier, his ambition being tempered with a safe conservatism, and he is now at the head of one of the leading financial institutions of the state. In April, 1884, he was elected vice-president of the National City Bank, of Ottawa, and in June, 1890, after the death of E. C. Allen, its president, he was elected to the superior office, and has ever since acceptably and creditably filled that position. This bank is capitalized for one hundred thousand dollars, and it now has a surplus of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, and undivided profits of fifty thousand dollars, making

a working capital of about three hundred thousand dollars. He is also president of the State Bank of Seneca, Illinois.

In 1867 Mr. Catlin organized the Ottawa Glass Company and they established one of the pioneer industries of its kind west of Pittsburg, of which he was the secretary and treasurer. Business was carried on under that name until 1880, when the company sold its plant to the United Glass Company, of New York, a corporation capitalized for one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and owning factories in various places. Of this company Mr. Catlin was the president and treasurer for six years after its organization.

In 1866 Mr. Catlin was married to Miss Helen C. Plant, a resident of Utica, New York, and a member of one of the old and honored families of the Empire state and connected with the Daughters of the Revolution. Their only child is James Plant Catlin.

Mr. Catlin is connected with many of the public interests of Ottawa which are calculated to promote the moral, educational and material welfare of the community. He is a member of the First Congregational church, and is serving as one of its deacons. He was a member of the first board of trustees of the public library at Ottawa; is the president of the board of trustees of the Ryburn Memorial Hospital, and is also a member of the board of trustees of Hamilton College, at Clinton, New York. Charitable and benevolent, he gives freely of his means to those in need of assistance, but gives always in a quiet, unostentatious way, seeking not the laudations of men. In his political views he is a stalwart supporter of the Republican party, and has served his city as alderman and a member of the board of education.

The record of Mr. Catlin is that of a man who by his own unaided efforts has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable business methods which he has followed have won him the support and confidence of many. Without the aid of influence or wealth, he has risen to a position among the most prominent men of the state, and his native genius and acquired ability are the stepping-stones on which he mounted.

E. B. STILES.

E. B. Stiles, as editor and proprietor of the Ransom Review, is a worthy representative of the journalistic interests of this section of Illinois. On the 17th of March, 1899, he took charge of his paper, which was founded by a Mr. Ford and was known as the Ransom Republic. Later the name

of this journal was changed to the Ransom News, and it was edited for a number of years by J. H. Brown, now of Blair, Nebraska, who sold out to Mr. Stiles. When this change occurred the present name was adopted, and the Ransom Review has steadily gained favor with the public. It is a bright, newsy sheet, devoted to local interests, and to the circulation of domestic and foreign news. It is an excellent advertising medium and has a splendid patronage along that line. Its circulation list includes more than four hundred names, and the paper is now in a prosperous condition. The office is well equipped for turning out a high grade of newspaper and job work and the owner is well worthy the liberal support of the public.

Mr. Stiles has been a resident of the county since 1881. He was born in Mendon township, Monroe county, New York, in 1836, and with his parents removed to Boyd's Grove, Bureau county, Illinois, in his youth. There he was reared and educated, and after attaining to years of maturity he married Miss Sarah Wilson, of Bureau county, who was born in Peoria, Illinois. Four children grace their union: Harry C., who was formerly connected with the Review, but is now a resident of Chicago; Minnie, wife of G. G. Hoover, express messenger for the Santa Fe Railroad Company at Streator, Illinois; Charles L., a railroad bill clerk at Streator, Illinois; and Ray E., of Ransom, who was a soldier in the Spanish-American war, as a member of Company A, Third Illinois Infantry, under command of Colonel Bennett.

In politics Mr. Stiles is independent, supporting the measures which he believes will best advance the country's interests, and voting for the man whom he thinks will execute those measures. He is a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with which he has been connected for more than thirty years, and for three terms has been a representative to the grand encampment of that society.

REV. HENRY A. O'KELLY.

The great work of the Catholic church appealed most strongly to the Rev. Father O'Kelly from the time that he was a young lad until he entered its service, thenceforth to devote his life solely to God and his fellow men. His labors of zeal and love have borne abundant fruits, and no more revered and honored priest is often found in a community than the pastor of the church of the Immaculate Conception, in Streator.

A brief history of the Father's life will prove of interest to his numerous friends and admirers outside the church as well as those of his flock. He is a native of the beautiful Emerald Isle, his birth having occurred in the

city of Galway, on the western coast, in 1852. A son of a physician of high standing, Dr. P. F. O'Kelly, he received exceptionally fine training and educational advantages, and was encouraged in his desire to enter the priesthood. The Doctor was a native of Dublin, and his wife, whose maiden name was Mary Birmingham, a daughter of Thomas Birmingham, Esq., of Ashgrove, county Galway, belonged to one of the most ancient Anglo-Norman families in Ireland.

When a young man of eighteen years the Rev. H. A. O'Kelly came to the United States, and at once entered a theological seminary in Troy, New York state. In research, study and preparation for the great work which was the goal of his ambition, he spent the subsequent eight years, being graduated and ordained a priest by Bishop Spalding, now of Peoria, Illinois. The young priest was then placed in charge of a congregation in Carthage, Hancock county, this state, and later was pastor of a church at El Paso, Illinois. In 1883 he came to Streator, where he has since officiated as the spiritual shepherd of the two hundred or more families included in the parish of the church of the Immaculate Conception. The house of worship was built by him, and in connection with this there is a flourishing school and a hospital founded by Father O'Kelly, some four hundred children being in regular attendance at the day and Sunday schools. Untiring in his zeal for the welfare of his church and people, there is little cause for wonder that Father O'Kelly is greatly loved and looked to for sympathy, help and counsel, which he never fails to give.

HENRY FETZER.

The learned professions call for individual talent and ability as no other lines of business do. An industrial or commercial enterprise already established and in successful operation may be taken up by one not hitherto connected with it, and without previous training he may carry it still further forward toward successful completion, but in the line of medicine or the law one must be specially qualified for the work, and strong mentality, comprehensive knowledge, close application and indefatigable energy must serve as a foundation upon which to rest the superstructure of professional success. It is therefore evident when one attains prominence at the bar that he possesses ability that enables him to advance, unaided by what others may have done before him. To-day Henry Fetzer, of Streator, ranks among the leading lawyers of LaSalle county, and is enjoying a large clientage. He began practice here in 1894, previous to which time he had been identified with the business interests of the community in various ways.

Mr. Fetzer came to the county in 1874 from Ohio, but was a native of Virginia, his birth having occurred in the Old Dominion, near Winchester, April 11, 1854. His parents were William and Catharine (Stickley) Fetzer, and the great-great-grandparents on both sides of the family were of German birth, the families being founded in America at about the same period in the colonial history of the country, the Fetzers becoming residents of Pennsylvania, while the Stickleys located in Frederick City, Maryland. Their descendants emigrated to Woodstock, Shenandoah county, Virginia, and thus the families became united through the marriage of William Fetzer and Catharine Stickley. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Joachim Fetzer, who was born in Virginia and resided near Woodstock, in the Shenandoah valley. William Fetzer, the father, was a farmer by occupation, and followed that pursuit throughout his entire life. He passed away in 1887, at the ripe old age of seventy-eight years.

Henry Fetzer spent the first fifteen years of his life in Virginia, and during that time enjoyed only limited school advantages. He worked as a farm hand in the neighborhood of his home, his wages going to his father. His ambitious spirit, however, was not content with such a life, and hearing that better wages were paid in the west he asked permission to leave home, promising to give his father just what he could make in Virginia. Consent was withheld, however, and therefore he "ran" away, going to Ohio, where he readily found employment in Belmont county. There he worked on a farm for three seasons, and in the winter attended school, which was his first experience in the educational line. In order to secure this privilege he worked nights and mornings for his board; nor was he content to end his studies there. He found a true friend in James Frazier, who, noticing his willingness to work and his close application to his studies, wisely advised him to continue his education in Franklin college, meeting his tuition with the little money he had been enabled to save from his wages. Acting upon this advice Mr. Fetzer pursued his studies until his small capital was exhausted, when he was again forced to labor for his daily bread. The taste for study has never left him, and his wide reading and close observation have made him a well informed man.

In 1874 Mr. Fetzer arrived in LaSalle county, where he taught school for some time, and then went to Grinnell, Kansas, where he served as postmaster and carried on general merchandising for a short time, but the tornado of 1879 destroyed all that he had saved, and in 1880 he again came to Illinois, where he engaged in teaching until 1883. The confinement of the school-room, however, undermined his health and he turned his attention to buying and shipping stock, which business he successfully followed until 1891. Through all these years it had been his ambition and desire to grad-

uate at some good educational institution, and in the fall of 1892 he entered upon a law course in the Northwestern University Law School of Chicago, being graduated with the class of 1894. It had not been his intention to engage in practice, the course having been taken up more for self-improvement; but, becoming deeply interested in the science of jurisprudence, he opened an office after his return from college, and has since been an esteemed member of the LaSalle county bar. He has steadily worked his way upward, and his devotion to his clients' interests, his careful preparation of cases and his thorough knowledge of the law have gained him a large practice and won him many notable successes before the court. His political support has generally been given the Republican party, but he is not strictly partisan and has no ambition for office. He is truly a self-made man, and though opposed by a seemingly adverse fate he has steadily worked his way upward until he occupies a leading position among the citizens of his adopted county.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL H. HEIDLER.

In September, 1895, the new superintendent of the public schools of Ottawa, Professor Samuel H. Heidler, entered upon his duties. He has made a most painstaking, efficient, judicious official, and has won the highest praise from our citizens and those interested in the progress of education. His whole mature life has been devoted to study and work along the lines of education, and both by nature and training he is eminently qualified for the responsible position which he occupies. Under his wise management of our local schools great improvement is to be noticed in many directions, and advanced methods, well tried and valuable, are being introduced as rapidly as is practicable.

A young man in the prime of life, Professor Heidler was born September 6, 1861, in the vicinity of Columbia, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the old homestead which has been handed down from one generation to the next, and was originally purchased by the paternal ancestor of our subject, of William Penn, the Quaker. There were five sons and five daughters in the Heidler family, the parents being Levi and Martha Heidler.

Subsequent to leaving the common schools Samuel Heidler spent three years in the training school at Millersville, the first state normal in the state of Pennsylvania. Then he taught for two years in his native county, after which he went to Springfield, Illinois, and there pursued special lines of study for a year. At the expiration of that period he accepted a position in the schools of Cantrall, a town situated some ten miles from the state capital of Illinois, and there he remained two years. His next position was

in Pleasant Plains, where he taught until 1889, at that time being offered the principalship of the Stuart school in Springfield, at a salary of twelve hundred dollars a year. This amount was later increased to fourteen hundred dollars a year, the highest salary that had ever been paid to any ward-school principal in the city. In 1893 the Professor went to California, and for two years devoted himself to special study in the State university. Returning, he at once entered upon his work as superintendent of the public schools of Ottawa. Keen in intellect, quick to grasp and deal with the difficulties of any situation, thoroughly posted in his chosen profession, he is just the man for the responsible position he holds. Fraternally he stands high in the Masonic order, and politically he is independent in his attitude.

In 1893 Professor Heidler was married in Springfield, Illinois, to Miss Delia Bunn, a daughter of Henry and Mary Bunn, of that city. Mrs. Heidler is a lady of superior educational and social attainments, and enjoys the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances. She is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and, in company with her husband, is a regular attendant at the services of the Lutheran church.

The Ottawa board of education was organized under a special law passed in the winter of 1854-5, and in the spring of the year last mentioned the people empowered the board to levy a special tax of one per cent. for the purpose of building school-houses and paying needed expenses. After much discussion two large buildings were erected, at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars. One of these, now known as the Columbus school, is in the third ward, and the other, now the Lincoln school, is in the fifth ward. Up to that time only one hundred and twenty-five children had been enrolled as public-school pupils, but from the day that the new, well equipped buildings were opened a marked change was observed, and in a short time additional accommodations were required. The intervening years have witnessed many great and notable improvements in our school facilities and educational methods, and each year rapid strides are made toward perfection.

CLARENCE GRIGGS.

In no profession is there a career more open to talent than in that of the law, and in no field of endeavor is there demanded a more careful preparation, a more thorough appreciation of the absolute ethics of life, or of the underlying principles which form the basis of all human rights and privileges. Unflagging application and the intuitive wisdom and a determination to fully utilize the means at hand are the concomitants which insure

personal success and prestige in this great profession, which stands as the stern conservator of justice; and it is one into which none should enter without a recognition of the obstacles to be overcome and the battles to be won; for success does not perch on the falchion of every person who enters the competitive fray, but comes only as the direct result of capacity and unmistakable ability. Possessing all of the essential qualities of the able lawyer, Clarence Griggs is accounted a leading member of the Ottawa bar.

He is the youngest son of Edward Young Griggs, who traced his ancestry back to Dr. William Griggs, a resident of Salem, Massachusetts, who died in 1698. His will, approved on the 18th day of July of that year, mentions a son Jacob, who resided in Salem and in Beverly, Massachusetts. Among the children of Jacob Griggs' family was Isaac, who was born on the 27th of June, 1699, and died in New Haven, Connecticut, January 27, 1768. His son Solomon, who resided in Waterbury, Connecticut, married Elizabeth Gridley on the 19th of February, 1778. He served as a soldier in the colonial wars, and at Waterbury, Connecticut, enlisted for service in the Revolution, loyally aiding in the cause of independence until the English power in the colonies was overthrown. One of his children was Ebenezer Griggs, who was born September 26, 1789, and resided in Waterbury and Southington, Connecticut. He married Hepzibah Bartholomew in 1811, and died July 4, 1823, at Cincinnati, Ohio. He was the grandfather of our subject. His wife was descended from William Bartholomew, who was born in Ipswich, Massachusetts, in 1640, and died in 1697, leaving a son Andrew, whose birth occurred on the 11th of December, 1670, and who died in Wallingford, Connecticut, in 1752. The last named was the father of William Bartholomew, who was born February 2, 1699, was married in New Haven, Connecticut, on the 25th of January, 1721, and died in Northford, Connecticut. His son, Seth Bartholomew, was born on the 6th of March, 1729, and died in Waterbury, Connecticut. One of his children was Osea Bartholomew, whose birth occurred on the 7th of November, 1755, and was married in Waterbury, Connecticut, November 16, 1778, and his daughter, Hepzibah, was the mother of Edward Young Griggs. She was born on the 6th of September, 1798, and died in Cincinnati, Ohio, in the summer of 1823.

Edward Young Griggs, father of our subject, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on the 24th of October, 1818. He wedded Mary Philbene Barnett, on the 5th of August, 1847. She was born in Louisville, Kentucky, May 9, 1827. The ancestry of the Barnett family can be traced back to John Barnett, who was born near Londonderry, Ireland, in 1678, and emigrated with his family to Pennsylvania prior to 1730, making a location in Lancaster, now Hanover county. He died in September, 1734, and among

his children was John Barnett, who was born in county Derry, Ireland, in 1705, and with his father came to America, his death occurring in Hanover in 1738. His son Joseph was born in county Derry in 1727, and died in Hanover in 1788, leaving, among other children, a son James, whose birth occurred in 1756, and whose death occurred in 1805. The last named was the father of Allen Barnett, who was born in 1796 and was married February 9, 1826, to Elizabeth Shaffer. His death occurred September 19, 1879, and his wife passed away on the 20th of December, 1841. Among the children who survived them was Mrs. E. Y. Griggs. On the 17th of April, 1849, the parents of our subject left Springfield, Ohio, and after traveling for five days reached Ottawa, Illinois, by canal boat, on Sunday morning. Mr. Griggs secured a clerkship in the employ of J. G. Nattinger, with whom he remained until September, 1850, and then opened a drug and book store in the three-story brick building where the National City Bank now stands. In 1853 he opened his drug store where he is now doing business, and has since been one of the leading merchants of the place.

Clarence Griggs, youngest son of Edward Young Griggs, was born on the 2d of January, 1857, and attended the common schools of Ottawa, being afterward graduated in the literary department of the University of Michigan, with the class of 1878. Determining to become a member of the bar, he took up the study of law under the direction of Mayo & Weidmer, and in 1880 was licensed to practice, and opened an office in the spring of 1881. He has since devoted his energies successfully to the work of a legal practitioner, and has held the office of master in chancery and county attorney, having been elected to the latter position for four successive terms. He is very conscientious and painstaking in the preparation of his cases, and is thoroughly devoted to his clients' interests. He is also a director of the First National Bank of Ottawa, having succeeded his father in that position in January, 1897.

On the 6th of September, 1883, Mr. Griggs was united in marriage to Lura Nash, eldest daughter of John F. Nash, who traces his ancestry back to Thomas Nash, who came from Lancashire, England, to America, landing at Boston July 26, 1637. He died in New Haven, Connecticut, on the 12th of May, 1658. His youngest son, Timothy Nash, was born in 1626, and died March 13, 1699, at Hadley, Massachusetts. Lieutenant Timothy Nash settled on a lot designated on the original plat of the town of Hadley, and his will is recorded in the probate-court records of Northampton, Massachusetts, and mentions his son Thomas. He was born at Hartford, Connecticut, in 1661, and died January 8, 1727. This Thomas Nash had a son Thomas, who was born February 26, 1692, and died March 12, 1783. John Nash, son of Thomas Nash, Jr., was born October 20, 1736, in Williamsburg,

Massachusetts, and had a son, John, Jr., whose birth occurred November 12, 1764, and who died October 17, 1824. Among his sons was Almerin Nash, who was born February 25, 1801, and married Mandana Warner, a descendant of Jonathan Warner, a captain in the war of the Revolution. They removed to Granville, Putnam county, Illinois, in 1840, where Mrs. Nash died January 25, 1844. John Fiske Nash, son of Almerin, was born in Williamsburg, Massachusetts, December 16, 1824, and came west with his parents. He taught school in Putnam county in 1846, edited a paper at Hennepin, and on the 2d of April, 1847, came to Ottawa, entering the law office of Dickey & Leland, being admitted to the bar in October, 1849. He served as deputy clerk under Philo Lindley and was elected to the office of clerk in 1856, serving six years in all. In 1861 he opened a law office in partnership with E. F. Bull, but in 1865, on the organization of the First National Bank of Ottawa, Illinois, became assistant cashier, and at the beginning of the new year was made cashier. He is one of the prominent Masons of the state, having served, in 1878, as grand commander of the Grand Commandery of the Knights Templar of Illinois. On the 26th of November, 1849, was celebrated his marriage to Lura M. Pennell, and her ancestry can be traced back to John Pennell, who, in 1728, left his home in Yorkshire, England, and crossed the Atlantic to America, taking up his abode in Colerain, Massachusetts. Among his sons was John Pennell, who served in the colonial wars and was a captain in the war of the Revolution. He was born in 1721, and died in Halifax, Vermont, October 21, 1797. Among his sons was John Pennell, who was born in 1758 and died June 23, 1793. He was the father of John Pennell, Jr., whose birth occurred in Halifax, Vermont, April 8, 1787, and died in Granville, Illinois, June 15, 1858. His wife bore the maiden name of Betsey Gaines, and with their family they came to the Prairie state, bringing with them their daughter, Lura M., who became the wife of John Fiske Nash. She was born at Heath, Massachusetts, January 7, 1826, and spent her girlhood in Bennington, Vermont, coming west with the family. Among her children was Lura Nash Griggs, wife of our subject. Mrs. Griggs was born August 27, 1858, and acquired her education in the common and high schools of Ottawa and in Mount Vernon Seminary, at Washington, D. C. She is particularly interested along musical lines, and for three years served as the president of the Amateur Musical Club. She is also a charter member of the Monday Club and was its secretary for a number of years. She also held the same position in connection with the board of lady managers of the Ryburn Memorial Hospital from the second year of its organization until her resignation in 1899, and is a charter member of the Illini Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Griggs has been born but one child, Lura Florence, whose birth occurred May 26, 1890. Their home is the center of a cultured society circle and many friends enjoy its gracious hospitality. Both Mr. and Mrs. Griggs are communicants of the Episcopal church. Our subject is prominent in political affairs, and has labored earnestly for the success and welfare of his party, having through several campaigns served as secretary of the Republican county central committee. He is a member of the Occidental Lodge, No. 40, F. & A. M., Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. He inspires personal friendship of great strength and has the happy faculty of drawing his friends closer to him with the passing years. In his profession he has gained respect, and his reputation in legal circles is no more enviable than is the high regard in which he is held among his acquaintances in social life.

REV. ALBERT ETHRIDGE.

Rev. Albert Ethridge, formerly the beloved pastor of the Congregational church of Marseilles, LaSalle county, Illinois, now retired from active service, was born in Sandwich, New Hampshire, January 19, 1829. His parents were Samuel and Lydia (Cook) Ethridge, both natives of the state of New Hampshire and of English ancestry. The grandfather, Stephen Ethridge, was a farmer, who married Jane McGaffee, and a son of Stephen Ethridge, a soldier of the Revolution. The family was founded in America in 1636. The maternal grandfather was Joel Cook, who married Betsy Maxfield, a native of Massachusetts.

Albert Ethridge lived on a farm during his earlier life and was a student in the public schools. He then entered the home seminary, and later became a student in the New Hampshire Conference Seminary, where he prepared for college. He then entered the Wesleyan University of Middletown, Connecticut, graduating with the degree of A. M. After leaving college he devoted several years to teaching in the high school of Sandwich and then came west, stopping in Henry county, Illinois, and then in LaSalle county. He took charge of the Congregational church at Deer Park, where he remained two years, and then went to Dover, Bureau county, this state, where he was in charge of the Dover Academy six years,—from 1859 to 1864. The following year he was elected principal of the public schools of Princeton, Bureau county, and two years later was appointed by the board of supervisors to fill the vacancy in the office of county superintendent of schools, caused by the death of the incumbent. He held this office until 1872, when, much to the regret of those associated with him, he resigned

to accept a position in Chicago with Harper & Brothers, where he was in charge of the school-book department. He was with them until 1876, when he resigned and came to Marseilles to assume the pastorate of the Congregational church. His labors here were attended with the most flattering results, but were discontinued three years later that he might accept a charge at Normal, this state. He remained there until 1880, when he was recalled to Marseilles, but at the expiration of two years resigned. He then supplied the pulpit of the Decorah (Iowa) church for six months, when he moved to Des Moines and supplied the North Park Congregational church. In 1885 he took charge of the Congregational church at Streator, Illinois, and one year later was commissioned to act as evangelist under the direction of the Illinois Home Missionary Society. He was thus engaged two years, when he was called to Marseilles for a third time to fill the pulpit of the Congregational church. He was with the organization as pastor six years, and then tendered his resignation and retired from active ministerial duties. He now occasionally supplies the pulpit, performs weddings and pays the last tribute to the memory of the departed. He is a pleasant, sympathetic speaker, and has been an earnest worker in the cause of Christianity.

Rev. Mr. Ethridge was married in November, 1852, to Miss Marcia A. Forrest, of Northfield, New Hampshire, a daughter of John and Marcia (Eastman) Forrest and a distant relative of Daniel Webster. They had three daughters: Lenora, who married Dr. C. A. Weerick, now a prominent physician of Chicago; Marcia S. and Carrie E., all of whom are deceased; Mrs. Weerick died July 22, 1888, leaving two children. Mrs. Ethridge having died, Rev. Mr. Ethridge again contracted marriage, on June 16, 1875, this time with Miss Arzella M. Lovejoy, of Ottawa, Illinois, and by this marriage there is one son, Albert, a student in the Ottawa Business College.

SAMUEL PLUMB.

The man who has been born a financier is as truly a genius as the man born a poet or a painter. If he be a man of honor and loves mankind, his work will be useful to many other men who have not his talent for money-making. He may even be a philanthropist by attending strictly to his own business. Hon. Samuel Plumb, of Streator, Illinois, went further than that. He took an interest in the affairs of his townsmen that inured greatly to the public good and made him loved and trusted by many.

Mr. Plumb was born in New York, January 15, 1812, and died at Colorado Springs, June 23, 1882. He was a son of Theron and Harriet (Merry) Plumb. He gained his primary education in the public schools near

Saml Plumb

his home in New York state, but the greater part of his education was obtained by study while at his work-bench. He was the president of a bank at Oberlin and later became identified in a prominent way with Ohio business and politics, and being an abolitionist (a Whig and later a Republican) he had as personal friends such men as Hon. Benjamin Wade, Hon. Joshua R. Giddings, Governor Salmon P. Chase and many others of prominence in different parts of the state. He represented Ashtabula county in the Ohio legislature and was active and influential in public affairs generally. At the time of the civil war his sympathies were enlisted by the needs of the soldiers in the field and of their families left at home, and he did much to better the condition of both classes. He was a member of a committee appointed by the governor of Ohio to go south to investigate the condition of Ohio troops after the first battle of Bull Run and to devise and suggest means for its improvement.

After the war Mr. Plumb and others established a bank at Oberlin and he was connected with the enterprise officially until 1869, when he removed to Streator, Illinois. A recent writer said: "Streator is not a beautiful city. It is a town in the making,—not yet a finished product. Its wealth and energies are devoted to deepening and broadening the foundations of its industrial life, rather than to smoothing out the wrinkles of toil from its face or adorning itself with the fruits of its labor. It is still in its iron age; its golden age is yet to come. The rude framework that supports the social fabric stands out bare and grim, as yet uncovered by the accretions which in older cities soften and mellow, if they do not conceal, the rough beams which knit the structure together; and the play of those elemental energies which propel the industrial mechanism, and thereby vivify and vitalize the social life, is still plainly visible." Thus was Streator described in a popular magazine in 1898. Perhaps the writer was too aesthetic. What would he have thought of the Streator of 1869, as Mr. Plumb first beheld it? Then it was a crude, unsightly, embryo village of small wooden buildings, and not many of them, and was familiarly known as Hardscrabble. In that year Mr. Plumb opened a private bank and later associated others with himself and organized the Union National Bank of Streator, of which he was president for quite a number of years and until his death. He took an interest in Streator and was influential in promoting, and generous in supporting financially, all measures and enterprises which in his judgment promised to benefit the town and its people.

He was a member of the Congregational church of Streator, and was interested in a helpful way in furthering all religious work without much question as to what Christian sects had it in hand.

Miss Levancia Holcomb, who married Mr. Plumb, and survives him,

was born in the state of New York, a daughter of Hiram and Jane (Richards) Holcomb, and was brought to Ohio by her parents on their removal to that state when she was twelve years old. She was graduated at Oberlin College in 1861, and while a student there met her future husband, whom she married in 1865. They had children thus named: May E., wife of R. A. Harris, M. D., of Redlands, California; Jessie, who married H. A. Schryver of Wheaton, Illinois; S. Walter, vice-president of the Union National Bank of Streator; and Bertha M., wife of L. B. Frazier of Aurora, Illinois. The grandchildren are: Harold R. Harris, son of R. A. and May E. (Plumb) Harris; S. Walter Plumb, Jr., son of S. Walter and Anna D. Plumb; Donald Plumb Frazier, son of L. B. and Bertha (Plumb) Frazier. Mrs. Plumb occupies the position as president of the Union National Bank of Streator, and has one of the handsome residences of Streator and dispenses a refined hospitality as becomes a lady of such culture as hers. She is a member of the Presbyterian church of Streator and is liberal in its support and in assisting in the charitable work of the town.

AMOS ROBERTSON.

Amos Robertson is now living a retired life in Sheridan, but for many years was actively identified with its industrial interests. He is a loyal and public-spirited citizen, who during the civil war manifested his fidelity to his country by entering the service and fighting for the Union. Therefore as an honored veteran, a straightforward business man and a reliable friend, he well deserves representation in this volume.

He was born on his father's farm in Cass county, Illinois, March 7, 1845, his parents being Rev. William H. and Nancy (Stockton) Robertson. The former was born near Greencastle, Indiana, in 1820, and was a son of Amos Robertson, who for several years represented Putnam county in the state legislature of Indiana. The great-grandfather of our subject, Robert Robertson, was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, and served under General Anthony Wayne in the Indian war of 1794. In an early day he removed to Clark county, Indiana. Amos Robertson became a resident of Putnam county, Indiana, in 1820, and in 1831 became a resident of Illinois, his death occurring in Morgan county, in January, 1832. In the fall of that year his widow settled on land which is now the site of Camp Point, Illinois. The maternal ancestry of our subject was Irish and the great-grandfather Warnock served for seven years in the Revolutionary war. Two of his sons, Joseph and James, served in the war of 1812, and the former was killed in the battle of Tippecanoe. Having arrived at years of maturity,

W. H. Robertson, the father of our subject, was married, in 1840, to Nancy Stockton, and they had five children, two of whom died in infancy, while George, Sarah and Amos grew to years of maturity; but George died in his twentieth year. The sister became the wife of George Sprague, who served for three years in the One Hundred and Sixtieth Illinois Infantry, and died from disease contracted in the army in 1871. His wife died in March, 1874. In the spring of 1847 Mrs. Robertson died, and in September, 1848, Mr. Robertson married Martha A. Lindsey, of Hancock county, where they lived until 1855. He then joined the ministry of the Methodist Protestant church and for many years preached the gospel, his labors resulting in great good. He was located at various points in Illinois, and in September, 1864, was elected the president of the Illinois conference, and in 1865 was again appointed to the Clinton circuit. In 1866 he became a minister of the Bloomington circuit, which he traveled three years. Later he had charge of various churches in the state, coming to Sheridan in 1875. The following year he was elected president of the North Illinois conference. His influence in the church was most marked and his forceful, persuasive and logical utterances led many to a knowledge of the better life. As a citizen he was public-spirited, progressive and loyal, and in Sheridan he served for a number of years as justice of the peace, being first elected to the office in 1881. He also served as the president of the board of village trustees, and did all in his power to promote the best interests and the upbuilding of the town. He died in Sheridan in 1895, respected by all who knew him.

Amos Robertson, whose name introduces this review, accompanied his father on his various removals, and enjoyed such educational privileges as the schools of the neighborhood afforded, but after the inauguration of the civil war he put aside his text-books in order to battle for the Union, enlisting on the 13th of August, 1862, at the age of seventeen years. He became a private of Company D, One Hundred and Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, and the first engagement in which he participated was at Chickasaw Bayou, four miles from Vicksburg, in December of that year. In January, 1863, he took part in the battle of Arkansas Post, and was at Champion Hills, a hotly contested engagement in the rear of Vicksburg. He also aided in besieging Vicksburg from the 19th of May until the 4th of July, when the city surrendered, and later he took part in the battles of Jackson, Mississippi, Mission Ridge, the Atlanta campaign and the siege of Atlanta, followed by the celebrated march with Sherman to the sea. His was one of the nine regiments selected at Savannah to capture Fort McAllister and open up a connection with the fleet. It was a difficult and arduous task, but the work was accomplished, and Mr. Robertson was the first man to surmount the walls of the fort, with the exception of two color-bearers. Subsequently he par-

ticipated in the Carolina campaign and was near Durham, North Carolina, when General "Joe" Johnston surrendered. At Washington he participated in the grand review, the most brilliant military pageant ever seen on the western hemisphere, and then returned to Springfield, where he was discharged, July 1, 1865. Throughout his service he was in the same company and regiment and was ever a loyal and faithful defender of the stars and stripes. Just after the siege of Vicksburg he was made corporal and was discharged with that rank. After three years of faithful service he returned home, and was not then twenty-one years of age. He had been four times wounded: first at Vicksburg; then at Dallas, on the Atlanta campaign; at Atlanta; and in the side at Bentonville, South Carolina. Mr. Robertson maintains pleasant relations with his old comrades in arms through his membership in Clayton Beardsley Post, No. 672, G. A. R., at Sheridan.

For the first five years after his return from the war he resided in Cass and Morgan counties, Illinois, and in 1870 came to Sheridan, where he has since continued to reside. He is a painter and paperhanger by trade, and diligently followed that business for many years, but for the past seven years has lived retired, having, through his well directed efforts, gained a comfortable competence which now enables him to rest from active labor.

In 1867 Mr. Robertson married Miss Lucy Osborne, who died in 1878, leaving three children,—Clinton, now deceased, William H. and Frank. In 1880 Mr. Robertson was again married, his second union being with Eliza Widman, by whom he has a daughter, Genevieve. The family have many friends in the community, and the Robertson household is noted for its hospitality.

In his political connections Mr. Robertson is a Republican, and has been honored with several local offices of trust and responsibility. He served as a constable for eight years, was police magistrate for four years, and for five years was the efficient president of the village board of trustees. Socially he is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His life has been characterized by diligence, by enterprise and by fidelity to every duty, and the record he has made is an honorable one.

REV. DOMINIC MEIER.

Saint Antonius' Catholic church, of Streator, has, as its pastor, the Rev. Father Meier, who has accomplished and is accomplishing a great work in this community. His executive and financial ability, as well as his zeal and helpful sympathy to every individual of his flock, render him worthy of admiration and respect by every one, whatsoever his creed.

A son of Gerkene and Mary (Richter) Meier, the Father was born in Covington, Kentucky, in 1851. His parents were both natives of Germany, whence they removed to the United States in 1835. They made a permanent home in Covington, and there passed away some years ago.

In his youth the subject of this biography attended school in his native city, receiving excellent advantages in an educational way. After he had completed his preliminary preparation for the serious task to which he had early dedicated his life, the ministry, he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he continued his collegiate studies, and was graduated in 1874. He then served for some time as an assistant priest, and in 1874 was ordained in Louisville, Kentucky, by Bishop McClosky. Then, going to Lafayette, Indiana, he was assistant to Father Beine for two years, after which he was assigned to Reynolds, same state. Subsequently he was the pastor of two or three different congregations in Indiana, and in 1879 was sent to Emporia, Kansas. There he had the responsible position at the head of the hospital and high school, and for six years he labored with most gratifying results in that important post of trust. In 1885 he was placed in charge of the church of St. George, in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he continued as pastor for two years.

Twelve years ago he came to Streator, and during this period the many departments of work connected with the church over which he presides have prospered wonderfully. His zeal has prompted his people to great undertakings, as may be plainly seen when it is stated that the splendid church edifice, erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars, a substantial school building valued at ten thousand, and a home which cost nine thousand dollars have been built within a few years. Thus, altogether, the church property is very valuable, and a wide field of usefulness opens before the devoted congregation, which is now equipped fully for future work.

JOSEPH C. HATHEWAY, M. D.

In the medical profession of LaSalle county the subject of this article has long held a representative place, and for the past forty-three years he has been actively engaged in practice in Ottawa. Here he enjoys the esteem and confidence not only of his numerous patients but also of the citizens in general, and those of his own profession, by whom he is often called into consultation on difficult and complicated cases. His wide experience in his chosen calling is not alone the result of practical labors among the sick and suffering, but comes in part from his earnest study of the best medical works and current journals devoted to the interests of his profession.

The birth of Dr. J. C. Hatheway took place in the town of Assonet,

Bristol county, Massachusetts, in 1833. He comes from one of the old families of that state, his parents being Elnathan and Salome Hatheway. Having mastered the various branches of an English education, the Doctor concluded that he would enter the medical profession, and accordingly matriculated in Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia. There he was graduated in the class of 1856, and at once established an office in Ottawa. He is one of the oldest members of the LaSalle County Medical Society, and has acted as president of the same, and also has been connected with the State Medical Society for years. At one time he held the position of county physician and surgeon, and has been an efficient member of the United States board of pension examiners. In the multiplicity of his other duties the Doctor has not neglected those which devolve upon every good citizen. The cause of education has ever found an active and sincere friend in him, and he was one of the first trustees of the Ottawa high school. The high school was organized and the present building was erected while he was a member of the board, and the town is greatly indebted to him for the wisdom and influence which he exercised in the matter. In political affairs the Doctor is independent of party ties.

In 1857 Dr. J. C. Hatheway married Miss Annie Crane, of Assonet, Bristol county, Massachusetts. Their son, E. P. Hatheway, M. D., seems to have an inherited talent for medicine, and is now associated with the father in practice. He is a young man of much promise and is rapidly building up an enviable reputation as a practitioner. He is a graduate of the well-known Rush Medical College of Chicago, and possesses undoubted ability and fitness for his favorite field of action.

BARNET L. BONAR, M. D.

The medical profession in LaSalle county is represented in the various thriving towns by men who have achieved distinction and well won laurels. Doctor Bonar, of Streator, is one of its most successful practitioners, and is very popular with his medical brethren, as well as with the citizens in general.

A native of Pennsylvania, he was born at Coon Island, Washington county, July 31, 1852. His father, Samuel Bonar, was likewise a native of the county mentioned, born July 9, 1822, and was a son of Barnet Bonar, who was born January 14, 1778, on the same farm, where he lived until his death, February 1, 1870. The latter was a son of William Bonar, who was born in Scotland July 9, 1740, and whose father, Barnet Bonar, was born in 1695, near Edinburgh, and emigrated to America in 1740, coming to

Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1774, thus becoming one of the earliest settlers of that county. The Doctor's father was a farmer by occupation, and every one who had dealings with him respected and admired him for his sterling integrity and uprightness of character. He married Miss Elizabeth Andrews, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (McConnell) Andrews, all of Richland county, Ohio. Mr. Andrews was a carpenter by trade and was successfully engaged in contracting and building for many years.

The boyhood and youth of Dr. Barnet L. Bonar passed happily and all too swiftly in his native county, and after completing the common-school course he entered Washington and Jefferson College, where he graduated in 1877. He then took up the study of medicine, reading under the instruction of Dr. Thomas McKennan, of Washington. Subsequently he was a student in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, and was graduated there in 1880. Going to Bucyrus, Ohio, he established an office and was occupied in practice at that point for about one year. In 1881 he came to Streator, where he soon obtained a foothold and gained a desirable reputation for skill and excellence in his chosen field of labor. In order to keep in the spirit of progress and thoroughly conversant with new methods, he is connected with several medical societies, among them being those of the county and state and that of north central Illinois.

In his political belief Dr. Bonar favors the platform and nominees of the Republican party. Socially he is a member of Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M., and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. In 1888 the marriage of the Doctor and Miss Sarah Modes, a daughter of William Modes, of Streator, was solemnized. They have two children, Jessie and Barnet E., whose presence lends brightness and added happiness to their pleasant home.

REV. LAURITZ A. VIGNESS.

One of the notable educational institutions for which the pretty little city of Ottawa is justly famed is the Pleasant View Luther College, which though young in years has advanced to the front ranks in an incredibly short period. The building is new and modern in every respect, is heated by steam and lighted by gas, and affords every comfort to the fortunate student who is enrolled as a pupil. The gentleman whose name appears at the commencement of this sketch is the president of the college, and is working indefatigably for the good of the same. His heart and soul are in the enterprise and the genuine interest which he takes in every student must make a favorable impression upon the scholar throughout his life.

In tracing the life history of the worthy president it is found that he comes from the sturdy, manly old Viking stock of Norway. His father, Ole L. Vigness, was born in Finnoe, Norway, and, following the accustomed occupations of the people among whom his youth was passed, he was a fisherman until he was twenty-three years of age. Then the desire to see something of the world and to enter some other field of labor led him to set sail for America. Arriving here in 1856, he went to Rock county, Wisconsin, and found employment in the vicinity of Janesville. In 1859 he took up a homestead of government land in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and at the end of three years, when he had made improvements and had a comfortable home, he married Miss Anna Hallum, likewise a native of Norway. The mother died in 1884, leaving three sons and three daughters to mourn her loss. Carl L., the second son, is now a professor in a college; Mary is the wife of J. Stennes, of Milan, Minnesota; Inga, who resides in the same town, is the wife of J. Johnson; and Emma and Edward are the younger members of the family.

Until he was fifteen years of age Lauritz A. Vigness attended the public schools of his native county, and early evinced unusual aptitude for books. His youthful ambition to enjoy the advantages of a collegiate education finally received fulfillment, and, after passing two years in Marshall (Wisconsin) Academy, he pursued a thorough four-years course of study in a college at Canton, South Dakota. Not satisfied as yet, he then took a classical course at Dixon College, at Dixon, Illinois, graduating in 1885, and was a student at Augustana Theological Seminary at Beloit, Iowa, for one year. In 1887 he became a member of the faculty of the Highland Park University at Des Moines, Iowa, having charge of the classical department, and for four years his labors in that well-known institution met with gratifying success. The presidency of the Jewell Lutheran College, at Jewell, Webster county, Iowa, was then tendered him, and he accepted the responsible charge. The authorities and managers of Pleasant View Luther College at length obtained Mr. Vigness' consent to become president of the institution, and from that time had no doubt as to its future prosperity. As an educator he has few superiors in this or any other state, and systematic methods are noticeable in everything which he undertakes.

In 1887 the marriage of Mr. Vigness and Miss Margaret Krogness was solemnized in Larchwood, Lyon county, Iowa. Mrs. Vigness is a daughter of Rev. S. M. and Johanna (Ammandsen) Krogness, both of whom have passed to their reward. To our subject and wife four sons and a daughter were born, their names being as follows: Joseph Alfred, Orrin Sylvanus, Lewis Martell, Paul Gerhard and Lydia Ruth.

The Pleasant View Luther College has several distinct departments of

study, including scientific, literary, commercial, musical, parochial and classical. A competent instructor, a specialist as far as possible, is in charge of each department. The rooms of the students are homelike, and in the boarding hall they are provided with an abundance of well-prepared, nourishing food. Chapel exercises are a part of the daily routine, and here the students are admonished, brought to a keener sense of their responsibility toward God and man, and are trained in the fundamental principles of noble citizenship. The college is wonderfully prospering, and its present capacity is now well taxed.

M. A. BRONSON.

M. A. Bronson, chairman of the LaSalle county board of supervisors and a respected resident of Streator, is recognized as an influential factor in local politics. He is well informed upon the great questions of the day, possesses an excellent education and abundant talent and general ability.

The parents of our subject, George and Adaline (German) Bronson, were natives of Litchfield, Connecticut, and New York state, respectively. The father was a son of Henry Bronson, of the former state, and his ancestors, as well as those of our subject's mother, were English. The only exception to this, along the various lines, is seen in the case of the mother of Mrs. Adaline Bronson, for she was a Miss Secor prior to her marriage, and came of sturdy French Huguenot stock. Her husband, Daniel German, a son of Reuben German, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and lived to the advanced age of eighty-six years. Our subject's mother, who was born April 24, 1827, is living with her son, Walter F. Bronson, in Macon county, Missouri. The father, who had devoted his energy to agriculture during his active years, died in 1895, when in his seventy-eighth year, at his home near Deer Park, Illinois, where he had dwelt since 1852.

M. A. Bronson was born in Wayne county, Michigan, not far from Detroit, August 13, 1850. Reared on the parental homestead, he received but a district-school education in his boyhood, but he was studious and ambitious, and these qualities obtained for him vastly better advantages than fell to the lot of the majority of his early playmates. When a mere boy he was sent to Galesburg (Illinois) Academy, and later he attended school also at Aurora, Illinois. For four winters after leaving school he was occupied in teaching, and for a short time was thus employed in Streator. Then for ten years he was in the United States mail service, running between St. Louis and Chicago, and Streator, Illinois, and Knox, Indiana. In 1892 he resigned that position in order to accept the one he now holds, that of agent for the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association. He looks after the sales and

general interests of the company which he represents, not only in Streator but also in the adjacent territory, and has made himself very valuable to his employers.

In 1875 Mr. Bronson married Miss Agnes Mackey, the eldest daughter of Samuel and Sarah Mackey.

In his political creed Mr. Bronson is a stanch Democrat, and for the past four years has been a member of the county central committee of that party. He takes a great interest in local and state politics, and does effective service for the party. For two years he has served as assistant supervisor, and in 1898 was honored with the position of supervisor from Streator, since which time he has acted in the capacity of chairman of the board. Fraternally he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and Streator Lodge, No. 607, A. F. & A. M.

DYSON MILLER.

No resident of Mission township has longer resided within its borders than Dyson Miller. This honored pioneer came with his parents to this county in 1832, when only two and a half years old, and has witnessed the entire growth and development of this section of the state. Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers at the time of his arrival, and wild game abounded in the forest and furnished many a meal to the early settlers. The land was in its primitive condition and there was little promise that this section would one day be situated in the midst of the richest farming section of the Union and would be the place of abode for a contented, thrifty and prosperous people. Mr. Miller has always borne his part in the work of development and advancement, has been a prominent factor in agricultural interests, and now, at the age of seventy years, is living a retired life, enjoying the rest which he has so richly earned and truly deserves.

Mr. Miller was born in Marion county, Ohio, December 23, 1829, and is of German lineage, his grandfather, Peter Miller, having been born in Germany, whence he came to America during the Revolutionary war. He aided in the struggle for independence and after the war took up his abode in Ohio. Peter Miller, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in Ross county, Ohio, September 5, 1802, and spending his youth in his native county he attended the district schools through the winter season and worked on the home farm through the summer months. He was married in Ohio to Harriet Holderman, a daughter of Abraham Holderman, a pioneer of Kendall, then a part of LaSalle county. In the spring of 1832 Mr. Miller, with his wife and their little son Dyson, then two and a half years

old, came to Illinois in a prairie schooner. They were six weeks in crossing the states of Indiana and Illinois to LaSalle county, where they arrived during the progress of the Black Hawk war. Hearing of the hostilities, Mr. Miller hid his wagon and goods in a thicket and, with his wife and child, proceeded on horseback to Ottawa. The militia afterward obtained this wagon for him. When the Indian troubles had abated Mr. Miller settled just south of Sheridan, where he secured a claim in 1833. His business interests were diligently conducted and managed with ability, and he prospered in his undertakings, becoming an extensive land-owner. In 1870 he decided to put away business cares, and accordingly removed to Sheridan, where he lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1889. His wife passed away in 1888. They were faithful members of the Protestant Episcopal church, and were honored pioneer people.

Dyson Miller was reared to manhood on his father's farm in LaSalle county, and to the common-school system he is indebted for the educational privileges he has received. He has always resided in Mission township, and for many years was connected with its agricultural interests. In 1851 he married Miss Harriet Amelia Beardsley, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of William Beardsley, a pioneer settler of Serena township, LaSalle county. He then began farming on his own account, and his well-tilled fields and excellent improvements on his place well indicated the careful supervision and unabating energy of the owner. When he was only eighteen years of age he drove hogs to Chicago for his father—a distance of seventy miles—and at that time not more than two stock-buyers were doing business in the now flourishing metropolis. He has seen the great changes which have taken place in methods of farming, has watched the introduction of new machinery which has revolutionized agriculture, and while actively connected with that line of work he was accounted one of the most progressive farmers of LaSalle county. He became interested in the grain business in Sheridan about 1874, and a few years later removed his family to the village, where he has since made his home. After being connected with that business for ten years he sold out, and for several years thereafter was in the stock business as a buyer and shipper, but is now living retired.

In 1894 Mr. Miller was made to mourn the loss of his wife, who was called to her eternal rest. The children born of their marriage were William B., now a resident of Chicago; Mrs. Jane Ann Moore, of Michigan; John H., a resident of Minnesota; Mrs. Mary R. Spradling, of Kansas; Mrs. Hattie R. Spurr, of Aurora, Illinois; Robert R., a stock-buyer of Sheridan; Peter H., of Ottawa; and Harry, who died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. Miller is a Republican and has held a number of local offices, including that of supervisor of Mission township. Socially

he is a Master Mason, and in religious belief he is a Methodist. He has now reached the Psalmist's span of three-score years and ten, and his life record is one unclouded by shadow of wrong. He has always been true to his duty to his neighbor, to his country and to himself, and has ever merited the warm regard so uniformly given him.

WALTER REEVES.

Walter Reeves, a prominent attorney of Streator, and one of the law-makers of the nation, is now for the third time representing his district in congress. He was born near Brownsville, Pennsylvania, on the 25th of September, 1848, and is a son of Harrison and Maria (Leonard) Reeves, the former of Scotch-English descent and the latter of Welsh-German lineage. The father was a farmer by occupation and was also a native of the Keystone state.

When eight years of age he accompanied his parents on their removal to Illinois, the family locating on a farm in LaSalle county, where he was reared to manhood. He acquired his education in the public schools and private study, and in early manhood became a teacher. During that time he also read law, and at the June term of the supreme court, in 1875, he was admitted to the bar. He at once began the practice of law in Streator and soon attained prominence at the LaSalle county bar. In 1884 he was admitted to practice in the United States supreme court, and has since been identified with much important litigation. He is the senior member of the firm of Reeves & Boys.

In politics Mr. Reeves has always been a pronounced Republican and protectionist. In 1894 he was nominated by the Republican party for representative in congress from the eleventh congressional district of Illinois, and was elected by a plurality of four thousand nine hundred and eighty-two votes. In 1896 he was re-elected by a plurality of six thousand two hundred and fifty-one votes; and on the 4th of March, 1899, took his seat for the third time in the house of representatives. Upon entering congress in 1895 he recognized the fact that he could best serve his constituents by devoting his energies to the work of internal improvements in the country. He was appointed a member of the committee on rivers and harbors, and in the river and harbor bill passed by the fifty-fourth congress he obtained from the general government for improvements in the state of Illinois between eight and nine million dollars. His position was that in the midst of exceedingly hard times the laboring people should be helped by providing work to be done in these internal improvements, and that in turn farmers and

business men would be benefited by the influence on freight rates resulting therefrom. Thus he accomplished more for the internal improvement of the state by the general government than had been accomplished for a score of years. He has prepared and introduced a bill in congress to control the patent system of the United States, and a leading labor paper of New York said that if passed it would accomplish more for the laboring people of the United States than any other bill ever introduced. His course in congress has ever been one favoring advancement and progress; and that he has been three times elected to represent his district is unmistakable evidence of the confidence reposed in him by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Reeves was married in 1876 to Miss Metta M. Cogswell, of Connecticut, a daughter of Lucius T. Cogswell. He is a man of fine personal appearance, affable in manner and a cultured, genial gentleman worthy of the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

FRANK O. CHAPMAN.

Frank O. Chapman, proprietor of Willow Stock Farm, on section 33, Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is one of the representative and popular citizens of this county. The salient points in regard to his life are as follows:

Frank O. Chapman was born on the old Chapman homestead in Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, April 19, 1860, a son of Hiram Chapman and grandson of Amasa Chapman, who were members of a New York family. Hiram Chapman was born in New York in 1824, was married in his native state to Miss Ann E. Davis, and a few years later came west with his wife and two little children and settled in LaSalle county, when this section of the country was nearly all in its primitive state. Here he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land, to which he added in after years until his farm was one of the largest in the county. His eldest son, George, resides in Odell, Illinois. The other three sons—Otis L., Hosmer and Frank O.—all have farms in this township. The only daughter of the family, Della, died at the age of twenty-two years. The father died in 1898, at the age of seventy-four years. The mother was fifty-four when she died, in 1882.

Our direct subject, Frank O., received his early training in the public schools and finished his education with a course in the Normal school at Morris, Illinois. He has never turned aside from the occupation in which he was reared, and as the proprietor of Willow Stock Farm is doing a business and has a place in which he has just reason to take pride, his farm

being one of the very best in the county. Mr. Chapman has for several years made a specialty of raising Poland-China hogs, and has sold hogs throughout this state, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri and Iowa.

Mr. Chapman has been twice married. December 23, 1883, he wedded Miss Emma Snyder, daughter of John Snyder, deceased. She died in August, 1885, leaving one child, a son, Elmer E. April 19, 1888, Mr. Chapman married for his second wife Miss Fanny I. Harris, daughter of Isaac Harris, of Miller township, LaSalle county. The present Mrs. Chapman was, previous to her marriage, a successful teacher. This union has been blessed in the birth of four children,—Clyde, Walter, Harold and Sina Luthera.

Mr. Chapman gives his support politically to the Republican party.

WILLIAM R. LEWIS.

William R. Lewis, the efficient supervisor of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, is one of the popular and enterprising agriculturists of this locality. He is one of the native sons of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Putnam county March 3, 1843. Of the eight children born to the Hon. S. R. Lewis, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, but four sons survive, the others being E. C., Charles and S. M., who is a farmer of Fall River township.

In his youth William R. Lewis was instructed in all departments of agriculture, and obtained a practical education in the public schools. In 1860 he located upon the homestead which he now owns and carries on. At that time this place, as well as all of the other land in the vicinity, was wild, and bore little promise of what it was to become under the careful cultivation and care of its future owner. Mr. Lewis set to work with a will, and the result of years of his well applied energy is seen to-day in his splendid farm, which is considered one of the best in the township. The place, comprising two hundred acres, is supplied with a model house, good barns and other buildings, a well-kept yard, shaded with fine old trees, and a thrifty orchard. Two windmills furnish the power for supplying an abundance of pure water to the house and barns, and improved farm machinery and implements reduce the labor of managing the place to a minimum. A high grade of live stock is raised and kept upon this farm, and a ready market is found for all of the products of the place, which is situated but three miles from Grand Ridge village.

In 1865 Mr. Lewis wedded Miss E. A. Eichelberger, whose father was born February 28, 1813, and died April 16, 1879. He was one of the early

settlers of this township, coming to Ottawa in 1837 from York county, Pennsylvania. His widow was born December 4, 1821, and is still living on their old homestead in this vicinity. Four children were born to our subject and wife: Anna, who married S. E. Jones, the agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Earlville, Illinois, and Edward C., Edith C. and F. W. The three younger children are at home, F. W. being a student in the Luther College, at Ottawa, Illinois. All have been given excellent musical advantages and possess considerable talent in that line, both daughters now being teachers of the art, and both boys being connected with the Grand Ridge cornet band.

From his youth Mr. Lewis was an abolitionist, and he joined the Republican party upon its organization, since which time he has been a zealous worker in its interests. He has frequently attended county and state and congressional conventions of his party, often as a delegate. For eight years he has served as a justice of the peace, and in 1896 was elected to the office of supervisor, in both of which positions he has acquitted himself with credit. Religiously Mr. Lewis and his family are connected with the Cumberland Presbyterian church, contributing liberally, both of their means and influence, towards its support.

COLONEL DOUGLAS HAPEMAN.

Electricity, a mysterious force, even now but imperfectly understood and only partially available in a practical way, is nevertheless such an important factor in the domestic, commercial and manufacturing economy of every enterprising town that it has engaged the services of the best thought of men of intellectuality and splendid business ability, under whose guidance it is being developed and brought under control and made more and more fully the servant of man. Colonel Douglas Hapeman, secretary and treasurer of the Thomas Electric Light & Power Company, of Ottawa, Illinois, was born in Fulton county, New York, January 15, 1839, a son of John and Margaret (Smith) Hapeman. At the age of five years he was brought by his parents to Illinois. The family located first at Aurora and later at Earlville, where Mr. and Mrs. Hapeman died, leaving three sons and six daughters: Almira, Margaret, Mary, Matilda, Adeline, Elizabeth, John, William and Douglas. The father, who became well known as a bridge builder, lived sixty-two years, and the mother died at the age of fifty-three. They were zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Douglas Hapeman received his early education in a school which was conducted in a little log school-house not far from Earlville. When thirteen

years old he began to work as a printer, and followed the vocation until April, 1861. For some time prior to the war he was a member of the Washington Light Guards, of Ottawa, and on the first call of President Lincoln for volunteers he enlisted in Company H, Eleventh Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was made second lieutenant. He was recommissioned in the Eleventh Regiment for three years, and took part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Corinth. He was discharged for promotion in August, 1862, and was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At Hartsville, Tennessee, he was captured, together with the regiment, and with Major Widmer was a prisoner about five months. He afterward took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Jonesboro and the memorable experiences of the march to the sea. In the campaign after Hood, north of Atlanta, he commanded a brigade in the First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, and was mustered out of the army June 22, 1865, having served four years and two months. He then returned to Ottawa and became one of the publishers of the Free Trader, but in 1882 disposed of his interest and was engaged in the book and stationery business until 1895, when he sold out to devote his entire time to his work as secretary and manager of the Thomas Electric Light & Power Company, in which he had been interested since 1884, and of which he is now secretary and treasurer.

The Colonel is a member of the Loyal Legion, Grand Army of the Republic, and the Masonic fraternity. He was married November 6, 1867, to Miss Ella Thomas, daughter of William Thomas, president of the Thomas Electric Light & Power Company. They have a son and a daughter, William T. Hapeman, who is, at the age of twenty-four, a successful lawyer of Chicago, and May E., wife of Dr. J. R. Hoffman, of Chicago.

The Thomas Electric Light & Power Company was organized in 1884, with a capital of fifteen thousand dollars, and Colonel Hapeman was made its secretary and treasurer. Starting out in a limited way, with two arc-light dynamos, capable of running twenty-five lights each, the concern, under the personal supervision of Messrs. Hapeman and Thomas, has made a great stride forward, and now takes rank among the leading institutions of the city. At first the station was on the "side cut," near the Illinois and Michigan canal, but in a few months what is now a part of the present structure was erected between the Victor Mills and the City Mills, and it has since been more than doubled in size. The company now operate three dynamos, with a capacity of ninety arc lights, two incandescent-light machines, with power for three thousand six hundred lamps, and the dynamos which run the city lights, one hundred and thirty-three in number. The company maintains

a day circuit, as well as a power circuit, so that the plant is operated continuously. Having the advantage of water power, its customers are supplied with lights and power much cheaper than in almost any other city in the Union. The application of electricity to the purposes of lighting, heating and power is only just beginning to be indicated, and the Thomas Electric Light & Power Company is ever on the lookout for new inventions, or for improvements on existing ones, which will better its service and help it to attain a perfect system of artificial light.

JAMES HENRY DRAKE.

Among the early settlers in LaSalle county, Illinois, was Jesse R. Drake, father of the gentleman whose name initiates this review, who with his family came to Illinois in 1839 and to LaSalle county in 1844. Jesse R. Drake was a son of William Drake, and was born in New York and reared and educated there. When he reached manhood he went to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he married Miss Jemima Ferguson, daughter of William Ferguson, of English descent, who came to America to fight for the colonists in the Revolutionary war. Some years after their marriage they removed with their family to Coles county, Illinois, and five years later to LaSalle county, settling in South Ottawa. Their family consisted of eight children, whose names in order of birth were as follows: Ruthenne, Benjamin, William, Delia, Jesse W., all now deceased; Mary, wife of A. G. Bardwell, of Erie, Neosho county, Kansas; J. H., the subject of this sketch; and Isaac, deceased. Both parents lived to venerable age. The father died at seventy-three and the mother at seventy-five. Jesse R. Drake was a prosperous farmer and stood high in the esteem of his fellow-citizens. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. Politically he was a Republican. His good wife was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

James Henry Drake was born in Coles county, Illinois, October 26, 1840, and was four years old when his parents came to Ottawa. His boyhood days were passed in work on his father's farm and in attending the country schools. He remained at the home of his parents, except one summer, when he was engaged in driving cattle from Illinois to Kansas until the civil war broke out. When the civil war came on he was among the first to enter the Union ranks, and he went out as a member of the Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Colonel William Cushman and Captain J. Skinner. He enlisted in 1861 and his service covered a period of over three years, at the end of which time he was honorably discharged. In 1886 Mr. Drake located on his present farm of one hundred and twelve

acres in South Ottawa township. This farm, known for years as the old Dewey farm, is well located, three miles southeast of town, and is nicely improved with good buildings, including a comfortable residence surrounded with lawn and shade trees.

July 5, 1868, Mr. Drake married Miss Mercy J. Turner, a native of Wyoming county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Erasmus T. and Fidelia (Ball) Turner, both natives of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Turner died in 1871, leaving two children, Mrs. Drake and Mrs. Louisa Clark. Mr. Turner is now a resident of Alta, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Drake have two children, namely: Charles H., who married Miss Allie J. Scidmore, and has one child, Charles Henry, who lives at Wenona, Illinois; and Linnie B., wife of Irving Scidmore and mother of one child, Ruth Belle Scidmore.

Mr. Drake is a Republican. Although taking an active interest in politics, he has never aspired to official honors. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post of Streator, and he and his family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal church.

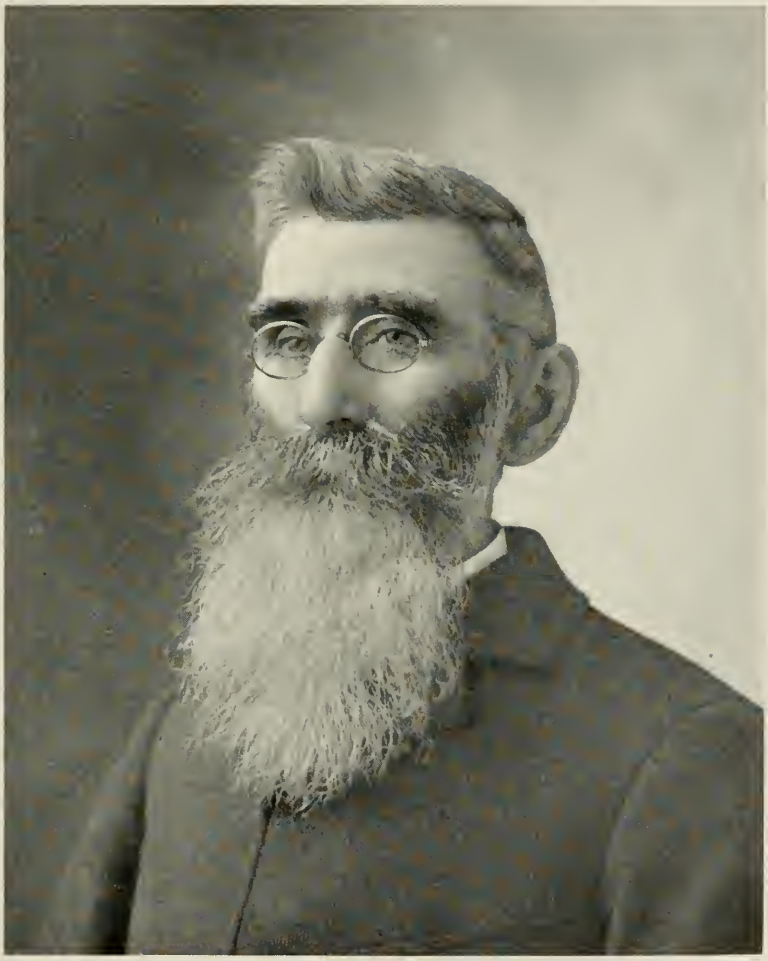
After the war he returned to his father's home and remained there until 1871, when he removed to Chatsworth, where he remained for one year; next he returned to the old home and engaged in the occupation of farming until 1879. Then he and his family removed to Streator, where he turned his attention to the flour and feed business and in buying cattle.

GEORGE L. DAVISON.

In 1869 George L. Davison cast his lot with the people of LaSalle county, and has never seen occasion to regret that he did so; for he is, first of all, patriotic and keenly alive to whatever he believes will be of benefit to the community.

Benjamin Davison, the paternal grandfather of George L., was a native of Pennsylvania. His son, Benjamin, Jr., was born in Washington county, of that state, in 1793, and moved with his father's family to Trumbull county, Ohio, in 1802, when but nine years of age, when that portion of Ohio was almost an unbroken wilderness. In 1834 he removed to Allen county, same state, and began the improvement of a farm near Lima, being one of the pioneers in this part of the state. In December of that year he married Sidney Howard Nelson, who was born November 5, 1795, at Geneva, state of New York, and was the first child born of white parentage in that place. The Indians had not yet left that part of the state. Her parents were Edward and Elizabeth (Armstrong) Howard.

But one child was born to Benjamin and Sidney Davison, George L., who is the subject of this sketch. He was born on his father's farm near



Geo. L. Davison

Lima, Allen county, Ohio, October 20, 1836, and during his youth attended the schools in his neighborhood, completing his education in 1855 at the Presbyterian academy in Lima. His father died in 1854, and after leaving school he and his mother continued to reside upon and operate the farm left by his father until 1869, when they sold the farm and removed to LaSalle county, Illinois, locating in the town of Manlius.

On the 11th day of August, 1862, Mr. Davison enlisted in Company B, Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was at that time being recruited at Lima, Ohio, and was appointed third sergeant at the organization of the company. On the last day of August the regiment was ordered to Covington, Kentucky, and was there during the Kirby Smith raid, and subsequently marched with the Army of the Cumberland, of which it became a part, from Louisville by way of Perryville, Crab Orchard and Somerset to Nashville, Tennessee. On February 26, 1863, while his regiment was encamped at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Sergeant Davison was promoted to be orderly sergeant of his company, and served in that capacity until April 10, 1863, when he was promoted as second lieutenant of his company, and on June 9, 1863, was advanced to the rank of first lieutenant. On July 16, 1863, he took command of his company, and served in that capacity until January 1, 1864. During this time he participated in the advance on Chattanooga and the battle of Chickamauga, September 19 and 20, 1863; Lookout Mountain, November 24, 1863; and Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863. In January, 1864, he obtained a twenty-days' leave of absence and visited his family in Ohio. Immediately upon his return to duty he was, by special order No. 17, headquarters Second Brigade, First Division, Fourth Army Corps, detailed for duty on the staff of Colonel J. H. Moore of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, then commanding the brigade. On March 31, 1864, he was, by special order No. 54, headquarters First Division, Fourth Army Corps, detailed as ambulance officer of the division. He organized and was in charge of the ambulance train of the division until July 2, 1864, when his resignation was tendered and accepted, based on a surgeon's certificate of disability. The following indorsement appears on the tender of his resignation:

Headquarters Second Brigade, First Division,
Twenty-third Army Corps.

Respectfully forwarded for the action of the Major General commanding the Department of Ohio.

I am sorry to lose the services of so valuable an officer; but disease has rendered him unfit for further service, and his life is in danger from it.

(Signed) P. T. SWAINE,
Colonel Ninety-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Commanding.

Mr. Davison's army record is of the best, and his children have just cause to be proud of his gallant and creditable service in the defense of the Union.

In 1869 Mr. Davison came to LaSalle county and located upon a farm in Manlius township, four miles north of Seneca, where he was energetically engaged in farming for several years. In 1887 he settled in Seneca, and for the past twelve years has been thoroughly identified with the town. For a period he was employed at the carpenter's trade, and more recently he has been busily occupied by public duties. While living on his homestead he officiated as the township collector; and he has been the assessor for six years. Seven years ago he received an appointment as a notary public, and in 1897 he was elected the police magistrate. In these offices he is still serving, ably discharging his duties and giving entire satisfaction to the citizens.. He is loyal to the platform and nominees of the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of Manlius Lodge, No. 491, I. O. O. F., and was the first commander of Joseph Woodruff Post, G. A. R., No. 281, of Marseilles.

On the 21st of September, 1858, Mr. Davison married Miss Margaret Boyd, daughter of James and Mary Boyd of Lima, Ohio. Two sons and two daughters of our subject and wife are yet living, namely, Ida A., Louis M., Sidney L. and M. Howard, who have received an excellent education. Ida is at home with her father and the three sons are residents of Oglesby, this state. April 4, 1891, Mrs. Davison passed away, leaving her family and a large circle of friends to mourn her loss. She had lived a consistent Christian life, being at the time of her death a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Seneca. His daughters, Effie L. and Anna M., both died in 1897, the former on the 24th day of April, aged thirty-one years, and the latter on the 2d day of June, aged twenty-five years. Both were conscientious and consistent Christians.

J. L. PIERGUE.

Mr. J. L. Piergue was the Delmonico of Ottawa and vicinity. Through long years of experience he has earned a well-deserved reputation as chef and caterer. A brief review of his life is as follows:

J. L. Piergue was born in France, in 1844, of a good family noted for their industry, honesty and morality. His father was a baker by trade, and under him our subject served an apprenticeship, thus laying the foundation of his successful career. He attended school until he was sixteen, when, in order to perfect himself in his trade, he became an apprentice to a regular caterer. During the World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893, he was chef of the

Hungarian Cafe, which he successfully conducted and which was one of the most popular of the "White City" resorts. He is now located at Ottawa, Illinois, where he maintains his reputation in his line of business. His elegant and successfully conducted saloon is located in his own building, a three-story brick structure, it being finished and furnished first-class in every respect.

Mr. Piergue was married, in Ottawa, to Miss Victoria De Claude, daughter of M. De Claude, and she is a woman of excellent qualities, and has proved herself a worthy helpmate to her husband. They have four children: Bert, of Omaha, who had charge of the German Village Cafe at the Omaha exposition in 1898; Edith, wife of Lee Uhl, of Ottawa; and Carrie and Louise, at home.

Politically Mr. Piergue is identified with the Democratic party. Socially he is a Knight of Pythias, a member of the uniform rank in that order, and an officer and one of the active promoters of the same.

DAVID LORING.

One of the first pioneer settlers of LaSalle county was David Loring, who arrived in this section of the state in 1838, since which time representatives of the name have been prominently connected with public affairs and business interests that have contributed to the general prosperity and advancement of the county. David Loring was born in the state of New Hampshire, on the 11th of November, 1775,—the year in which the Revolutionary war began. After some years he enlisted in the United States Navy, and when the second war with Great Britain began he entered his country's service to protect American interests. He married Mercy Benson, a native of Rhode Island, born May 1, 1786, and afterward purchased a farm in East Bloomfield, Ontario county, New York, where he resided with his family until 1832. He then emigrated westward, locating in Medina county, Ohio, whence, in 1838, he came to Illinois, settling on section 32, township 34, range 5, in what has since become known as Manlius township, LaSalle county. There Mr. Loring carried on farming until his death, which occurred May 11, 1847, when he had reached the age of seventy-one years and six months. His wife passed away on the 1st of September, 1846, at the age of sixty years and four months. They lived to see all their children married and living in homes of their own near the old family homestead. They had four sons and two daughters: Thomas, Sally, Betsey, David, John and William R.

Thomas, the eldest son of David and Mercy (Benson) Loring, was born

in Ontario county, New York, in 1806, and in 1827 married Caroline Hall, a native of Providence, Rhode Island. They had three children,—Thomas, Hannah and Catherine. Coming to Illinois, Thomas Loring, Sr., was serving as the jailer in Ottawa at the time George Gates was hung for the murder of an Englishman named Liley. He was also a deputy sheriff at one time and guard in the state penitentiary in Alton, Illinois. He was on various occasions proprietor of hotels, including the Fox River House, at Ottawa; Sulphur Springs House, just west of Ottawa, and the Kimbol House, at Marseilles. His wife died in Marseilles in 1850, and Mr. Loring afterward married Miss Laura Cooley, of Northville, by whom he had three children, —Jennie, Frankie and Nellie. Mr. Loring died in Marseilles in 1887, at the age of eighty-one years. His son Thomas went to California in 1849 with the Green Company, and spent the remainder of his life in the west, his death occurring in Boise, Idaho, a few years ago. Hannah, a daughter of Thomas Loring, Sr., married Aaron Gage, of Brookfield, LaSalle county, and is still living on the old homestead, although her husband died several years ago. She had seven children. Catherine, the second daughter of Thomas Loring, Sr., married Henry Mitchell, of Ottawa, LaSalle county, and there they made their home for several years, but later removed to La Porte, Iowa, where Mr. Mitchell died, in 1896. She had four children.

Sally Loring, daughter of David Loring, the pioneer of the family in LaSalle county, was born in Ontario county, New York, in 1809, and married Dolphus Clark, of that county. They came to Illinois in 1836, locating on section 5, township 33, range 5. In 1867 they removed to Marseilles, where Mr. Clark died, in 1884, while his wife survived until 1898. They had ten children,—four sons and six daughters: Carlos, Adaline, Mercy, Sally, Caroline, John, Mary, Dolphus, Richard and Clara.

Betsey Loring, the second daughter of David Loring, was born in Ontario county, New York, in 1812, and became the wife of Nelson Morey. In 1836 they came to Illinois, afterward emigrated to Texas, and in 1850 Mrs. Morey died near Galveston, leaving one son, named Harvey Morey.

David Loring, the second son of David Loring, Sr., was born in Ontario county, New York, in 1814, and in 1836 came to Illinois. He drove a stage for Fink & Walker on the old stage route between Chicago and Ottawa, and was a prominent factor in events forming the pioneer history of the county. He married Elizabeth Nichol, of Mansfield, Ohio, and they had eight children, two sons and six daughters, but two of the children died in infancy. Those still living are Malvina, Betsey, Ella, Marvel, Jennie and George. Of this family Malvina married Mr. Hill, by whom she has a son and daughter, and they now make their home in Olympia, Washington; Betsey is now the wife of Mr. Craw-

ford, of Wyoming, and they have three children; Ella is the wife of Mr. Swan, of Olympia, Washington, and they have two sons; Marvel also lives in Olympia; Jennie is married and resides in Ontario county, New York, upon a farm near the old David Loring homestead; and George is married and lives in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mr. Loring, the father of these children, is still living, at the age of eighty-five years, and the mother is now eighty years of age. They reside in Olympia, Washington, and are now enjoying fair health for people of their years.

John Loring, the third son of David Loring, Sr., was born in Ontario county, New York, August 22, 1817, and in 1835, when eighteen years of age, came to Illinois. During the summer months he worked as a farm hand for Joseph Brumbach, and when autumn came returned to Ohio. In the spring of 1836, however, he again came to this state and for almost half a century he and his wife resided upon one farm in this locality. He was married January 1, 1844, to Lowisa Mickey, of Mansfield, Ohio, who died December 28, 1893, at the age of seventy-six years and eleven months. After her death Mr. Loring resided with his daughter, Mrs. Piester, in Marseilles, and died at the age of eighty-one years and seven months. Mr. and Mrs. Loring were the parents of four children, two sons and two daughters: Eliza, Hulbert L., George and Alzina. The elder daughter became the wife of Milton Piester, of the town of Mission, and for some years they resided on a farm in Rutland. In 1882 they removed to Marseilles, where Mr. Piester purchased an interest in a hardware store and became a partner of Mr. Wilson. He died in 1887, at the age of forty-nine years, leaving his widow and four children—Carrie, Marcia, Alzina and Winnie—all of whom reside in Marseilles. Hulbert L. Loring was born in the town of Miller, September 6, 1846, and was married December 25, 1870, to Mary Bosworth, who died June 27, 1872, after which Mr. Loring lived with his parents until December 25, 1878, when he wedded Mary J. Grove. They live on a farm in Miller township and have two children, George and Wilber. George Loring, the third child of John Loring, was born in the town of Miller, January 13, 1849, and married Addie B. Engle, of Burr Oak, Michigan, December 5, 1878. He lives on the John Loring homestead in the southwestern part of Miller township, LaSalle county, and has two children—Margaret and Raymond. Alzina Loring, the fourth child of John Loring, was born January 1, 1856, and was married September 17, 1879, to John M. Wells, of Nevada, Iowa, where they now reside. They have a daughter named Reine.

William R. Loring, the youngest son of David Loring, was born in Ontario county, New York, on the 22d of August, 1820, and in 1838 came to Illinois. He was married in 1843, to Jane Mickey, of Mansfield, Ohio, a

sister of his brother John's wife, and by this union were born ten children, nine sons and a daughter, of whom seven are living, while three have passed away. Mrs. Loring died in Osceola, Iowa, several years ago, and Mr. Loring's death occurred in Peoria, Illinois, in 1897. Of their children, Thomas and May died in infancy; Alonzo died at the age of eighteen years; Riley is married and lives in Peoria; Augustus P. is married and resides in Missouri; Ernest is married and resides in Colorado; Elzie, Jesse and Simeon are living in Kentland, Indiana; and Charles is married and resides in Chicago.

URIAS J. HOFFMAN.

The popular superintendent of schools in LaSalle county, Urias J. Hoffman, has been the incumbent of this responsible office for the past five years, during which time many notable changes for the better have been inaugurated in the public-school system of this section of the state. Professor Hoffman is a practical educator and sound business man, earnest and well grounded in his convictions, and persevering in his efforts to permanently benefit the schools of this vicinity.

John Hoffman, father of the above-named gentleman, was a native of Saxe-Weimar, Germany. There he married Margaret Koelner, and together they came to the United States in 1852. Settling in Indiana, they continued to reside there until the death of the father, a few years later. The widow, thus left alone with two small sons, remarried.

The birth of Urias J. Hoffman took place in the village of Wawaka, Noble county, Indiana, May 12, 1855. He was naturally of a studious turn of mind, and spent all of his leisure time with his books. At fourteen years of age he was given his time, and while working for farmers was permitted to attend school in the winter season. At seventeen he had saved a sufficient amount from his limited earnings to enable himself to take an academic course, and in 1878 his pedagogic career began, as he taught a country school. Then, for two years, he was employed as a teacher in a village school, and in 1881 he was elected associate principal of Jennings Seminary, Aurora, and was connected with that institution for six years. He then served three years as president of Hayward Collegiate Institute, at Fairfield, Illinois. Going then to the DePauw (Indiana) University, he was instructor in English for a year, leaving that position to accept one in Florida. At the end of three years' stay in the south he returned to Marseilles, Illinois, where he was principal of schools until he was elected to the present position, in November, 1894.

Among the most important improvements which have been instituted

in the educational methods of LaSalle county in the past few years the following may be mentioned: A uniform system of text-books in the country schools is in force; the county institute has been attended by the majority of the six hundred teachers of the county, as great care has been taken in securing the best educators in the land for the purpose of instructing them in practical methods of work; a regular course of study, as systematic as that of a graded school, is now maintained in the country schools; and libraries, consisting of the books of the Illinois Pupils' Reading Circle, have been started in about three-fourths of the country schools. In round numbers there are twenty-five thousand children of school age within the limits of this county, though less than seventeen thousand are enrolled in the public schools; the total expense for school purposes is somewhat over two hundred and ninety thousand dollars a year; there are three hundred and seventeen school houses, and the estimated value of school property is six hundred and twenty-one thousand dollars.

In 1885 Mr. Hoffman and Miss Ella Walker were married, in Earlville, LaSalle county. Mrs. Hoffman is a daughter of R. H. and Susan (Sears) Walker. Her higher education was acquired in Jennings Seminary, at Aurora, and prior to her marriage she was successfully engaged in teaching for some time. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman is Margaret, born September 5, 1898.

Z. SEVERSON.

Z. Severson, postmaster and general merchant at Stavanger, Illinois, is a prominent and well-known factor in the little town in which he lives, he having filled the position of postmaster here for a dozen years and having been in the business here for a longer period. A review of Mr. Severson's life, briefly given, is as follows:

Z. Severson was born in Norway, May 18, 1841, a son of Severt and Sophia Severson, and was reared and educated in his native land, learning there the trade of shoemaker. On reaching manhood he thought to better his condition by emigration to America and accordingly landed here in due time and set to work to make a home and accumulate a competency. His store and residence in Stavanger he built in 1883. He keeps a well equipped general store, his stock including groceries, boots and shoes and a general line of dry goods and notions, and by his honorable and upright business methods he has established and maintains a large trade, which extends for miles in every direction. He was appointed postmaster in 1887, and that he has since filled the office is evidence of his prompt and faithful service in the same.

Mr. Severson has been twice married. In Norway, in 1864, he married Miss Margaret Peterson, who died in Grundy county, Illinois, in 1881, leaving three children, viz.: Thomas, who has a store in Nettle Creek township, Grundy county; and Samuel and Magnus, at home. In 1882 Mr. Severson wedded Miss Sarah Johnson, like himself a native of Norway, she having come to this country since grown.

He and his wife are members of the Methodist church at Stavanger, and his political support is given to the Republican party.

WILLIAM H. HULL.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Ottawa who occupies a more enviable position in commercial and financial circles than William H. Hull, not alone on account of the brilliant success he has achieved but also on account of the honorable, straightforward business policy he has followed. He possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception, forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution; and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him the high degree of prosperity which he to-day enjoys. He is now the president of the Ottawa Gas & Electric Light Company, and at different times has been connected with the various enterprises which have promoted not only his individual success but have also contributed to the general prosperity by promoting commercial activity. He is one of the pioneer business men of the city, having been prominently connected with its interests since 1855.

He was born in Oneida county, New York, on the 11th of October, 18—, and is descended from good old Revolutionary stock, his ancestry having always been noted for patriotism. His paternal grandfather, Josiah Hull, was one of the heroes who fought for the independence of our nation; while Horace Hull, the father of our subject, was a gallant soldier in the war of 1812. The former was a native of Durham, Connecticut, and spent the days of his childhood and youth there. He married Mehitable Walker and for many years they were residents of Oneida county, New York, where their last days were spent. Both reached an advanced age, and after the grandfather's death his widow was granted a pension in recognition of his valuable service in the war for independence.

Horace Hull was born and reared in Oneida county, New York, and about 1835 removed to Oswego county, that state, where he carried on agricultural pursuits. He was a man of great industry, enterprise and of unquestioned honesty, and commanded the respect of all who knew him. He married Sabrina Lamphere, and to them were born five children; but two

died early in life. The others are W. H., of this record; Mary, wife of Frank B. Stearns, who formerly resided in Ottawa but is now a prominent and influential citizen of Ottawa Beach, Michigan; and George, of this city. The father died in the Empire state, at the age of seventy-four years, after which the mother came to Ottawa to make her home with her son, W. H. Hull. She was a faithful wife and tender mother, and her many excellencies of character endeared her to all with whom she was brought in contact. She died at the very advanced age of ninety-four years.

W. H. Hull, of this writing, was a child of only three years at the time of the removal of his parents to Oswego county, New York, where he was reared to manhood upon his father's farm; and a splendid physical development came to him through his labors in field and meadow, combined with the out-door sports in which country boys usually engage. Nor was his mental training neglected during this period; for he attended the public schools of that locality and later pursued an academic course, so that he was well prepared to cope with the responsible and practical duties of life.

After laying aside his text-books he engaged in teaching in Oswego county, New York, for three years, and then came to Ottawa, in 1855. His interests have been closely allied with those of his adopted city. For two years he was employed as a bookkeeper and then began business on his own account as a dry-goods merchant, in partnership with a Mr. Thorson. Later he carried on operations in that line alone and enjoyed a liberal patronage, owing to his earnest desire to please the public, his uniform courtesy, willingness to oblige and his well known reliability. His ability is by no means confined to one line of endeavor, and in the successful management and control of various enterprises he has largely promoted the prosperity of the community. He was one of the promoters and officers of the glass-works of Ottawa, aided in the organization of the company which established the clay works, and later was largely instrumental in the formation of the Gas and Electric Light Company, of which he was president. To his careful management, sagacity and honesty is due in a large measure the success which has attended the enterprise.

In Oswego county, New York, when twenty-four years of age, Mr. Hull was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte Kendall, a lady of intelligence and culture who has been a worthy helpmeet to him in the many years of their married life. They have two children: Fanny, wife of C. A. Caton, a member of the Illinois Milling Company, of Ottawa; and Horace, a well known attorney and court stenographer of Ottawa; he is a graduate of the Chicago Law School and has attained considerable prestige in his profession.

In his political views Mr. Hull is a Republican, and he has served as a member of the city council for eight or nine years, during which time he

has advocated many measures for the further development and improvement of his native city. He is a valued member of the order of Knights of Pythias, and in all life's relations commands the respect and confidence of those with whom he is brought in contact. In manner he is frank and genial, ever courteous and approachable. He stands for the best type of American manhood, believing in the dignity of honest toil and the nobility of an upright life.

THOMAS H. SPENCER.

The subject of this sketch has been a lifelong resident of LaSalle county, and has long figured as one of the prominent and highly respected farmers of Otter Creek township, his post-office being Richards.

Thomas H. Spencer was born on his father's farm in this county, April 16, 1846, of English parentage. James Spencer, his father, was a native of Lancashire, England, born in 1808, son of Harrox and Mary (Hounsworth) Spencer, the former a mechanic who lived and died in Clitheroe, England. At the age of eighteen years James Spencer came to America. For a few years he worked at his trade, that of blacksmith, in Rhode Island and New York, and in 1840 came west to Michigan, settling at Romeo, where he was subsequently married to Miss Mary Billsborough, a native of Pendleton, Lancashire, England, and in 1843 they removed to LaSalle county, Illinois, and settled on a farm in Otter Creek township, where the subject of this sketch now lives. They became the parents of five children, namely: Thomas H.; Peniath, wife of William Sexton, of Carroll county, Iowa; Mary, deceased wife of J. R. Brehman, of Otter Creek township; James R., a Union soldier of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was killed in the battle of Hartsville, Tennessee, at the age of nineteen years; and one that died in infancy. The mother died in 1858 and the father survived her until 1878, when he died, at the age of seventy years. He was a successful farmer all his life, and politically was a Democrat, having filled at different times several township offices, including those of township supervisor, treasurer of the school board, and justice of the peace.

Thomas H. Spencer, who was reared on his father's farm and was educated in the district schools and the Ottawa high school, has all his life been engaged in farming. He has a pleasant rural home, located six miles northeast of Streator, where he owns one hundred and sixty acres of fine land and carries on diversified farming, making a specialty of raising fine stock.

Mr. Spencer was married January 2, 1870, to Miss Carrie Leach, of Brooklyn, New York, daughter of John and Anne (Billsborough) Leach,

both now deceased. Mrs. Spencer was born at Hudson, New York, and educated at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Spencer have had six children, five of whom are living, namely: Mary, wife of Reece Snedaker, of Alta Vista, Kansas; James B., of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, married Miss Clara Sandrey; Mabel, wife of William J. Stevenson, of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county; and William E. and Elmer D., at home. Their third born, John R., was killed in an accident, when fourteen years old.

Until the past few years Mr. Spencer was a Democrat, but now affiliates with the Republican party. The official mantle of the father has fallen gracefully to the son. Like his father, Thomas H. Spencer has served acceptably in several local offices. He was township clerk five years and president of the school board five years, and at this writing is filling the office of justice of the peace. Fraternally, Mr. Spencer is a Mason, having membership in Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.

ROBERT NEWTON BAUGHMAN.

It is edifying to study and to write, even briefly, the life story of a good man who has "fought the good fight" and has gone to his rest after the battle of life. It will be edifying to those who knew Dr. Robert Newton Baughman, of Marseilles, Illinois, to read the few important facts concerning him which are here presented. He was a man whose influence on his day and generation was good, and his works live after him.

Robert Newton Baughman was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, April 22, 1847, and died at Marseilles, Illinois, May 29, 1897. He was a son of Robert and Margaret (Armstrong) Baughman. His father was born in Pennsylvania, his mother in Ohio. Robert Baughman was a painter, and as a child the future dentist naturally became familiar with his work. The lad attended the public schools of Cincinnati, and on completing his English education took up the study of dentistry. He was graduated from the Cincinnati Dental College, and began the practice of his profession in Toledo, Ohio. He located later in southern Illinois, and in 1881 came to Marseilles, where he continued his professional practice successfully until 1892, when he was compelled to relinquish it on account of failing health, and sold his office and practice to Dr. D. F. Cotterman. As a dentist Doctor Baughman was up-to-date at all times in his career. He used only the best materials and employed only the best methods, and was a diligent reader of the important literature of his profession, and a frequent contributor to it as well. He was

a public-spirited citizen, and his removal in the prime of life was looked upon as a calamity by all who knew him. He was a prominent Mason.

August 11, 1887, Doctor Baughman married Miss Harriet E. Gage, second daughter of Isaac and Lucy (Little) Gage. Isaac Gage came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1837, and became one of the prosperous farmers of Brookfield township. There Mrs. Baughman was reared and spent the years of her girlhood. She is a woman of education and many graces and accomplishments, and dispenses a generous hospitality at the family home on West Clark street, Marseilles. She has a son, Isaac Newton Baughman, who was born December 19, 1888.

SAMUEL R. M'FEELY.

Among the representative men of LaSalle county, Illinois, is the vice-president, superintendent and manager of the J. C. Ames Lumber Company, whose name appears at the head of this biography. He was born in Woburn, Massachusetts, in May, 1844, and is a son of James and Eliza (Ash) McFeely. James McFeely was born in Ireland and there educated and grew to young manhood. In his nineteenth year he came to the United States and settled in Massachusetts, where he married Eliza Ash, daughter of Captain Samuel Ash, who served in the attack on the East Indies. The marriage was celebrated in Boston, and there James McFeely worked at his trade of carpenter and bricklayer, erecting many of the stores and dwellings of that city. His father was Patrick McFeely.

Samuel McFeely spent his younger days in Woburn, attending the public school and later the high school. In 1862 he enlisted in Company K, Thirty-ninth Massachusetts Infantry, under Colonel P. S. Davis, and served the following three years. During that time he took part in a number of important engagements, was in the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg and several minor battles. He was discharged in June, 1865. After remaining a short time in Woburn he went to Kansas and worked at his trade, carpentering and contracting, in Topeka, Abilene, Emporia and Eldorado, for six years. He then went back to Massachusetts and from there to Canada, where he spent a year. His next move was to Illinois and he worked at his trade in Dwight until 1872, when he moved to Streator. He continued to work at his trade until 1877, erecting many dwellings and business blocks, among them the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1880 he entered the employ of the J. C. Ames Lumber Company, of which he was made vice-president in 1891, and is also superintendent and general manager.

Mr. McFeely was married in 1870 to Miss Mary Close, daughter of James and Elizabeth Close, of Livingston county, Illinois. He is a stalwart Republican, was a member of the school board for four years, and two years was in the city council. He is a member of Streator Lodge, No. 607, A. F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M.; Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.; and Streator Post, No. 68, G. A. R., in which last he is past junior vice commander of the Department of Illinois.

WILLIAM ACKERMANN.

One of the progressive and broad-minded journalists of LaSalle county is William Ackermann, of Streator. He is one of the native sons of this county, his birth having occurred in Ottawa, March 14, 1857. His parents, Christian W. and Cordula (Kempter) Ackermann, were natives of Wurttemberg, Germany, and emigrated to the United States in 1848. They first located in Cincinnati, Ohio, thence went to Davenport, Iowa, and ultimately became well known residents of Ottawa, Illinois. The father departed this life in 1894, and the mother is still living, her home being in Pekin, Tazewell county, Illinois.

After he had completed his elementary education in the common schools, our subject attended the Logansport (Indiana) high school for some time, and, being an intelligent, ambitious youth, found little difficulty in obtaining employment in the office of the Logansport Journal and other local papers, when he sought to learn the printing business. In 1880 he engaged in the publication of the Deutsche Zeitung in Leadville, Colorado, and four years later he came to Streator and established the well and widely known Volksblatt, which has attained an extensive circulation among the German citizens of this section of the county. It is a five-column quarto with a six-column supplement, and is issued weekly, on Friday morning. Until September, 1894, the politics of the paper were distinctly Democratic, but at the time mentioned, the tariff issue assuming such grave importance to the people of the commonwealth, it was deemed advisable to follow a different course of tactics, and to advocate protection of the products of American industry. This course has been maintained since, and though some subscribers demurred, and, "like the laws of the Medes and Persians, changed not," the majority have conceded the wisdom of the editor and loyally praise him as a man possessing the courage of his convictions. The paper is of and for the people, working always for what it believes to be the good of the majority, and for this immediate section of the county. It presents in a clear, concise form, the important news of the day, and matters of local interest.

Upon the 10th of August, 1884, Mr. Ackermann married Miss Adolphine Hoebel, a native of Germany, but who, for a number of years had resided in Colorado. This worthy couple have numerous friends and well-wishers in Streator, among both the German and English citizens.

FRANK E. M'MULLAN.

One of the youngest successful journalists of Illinois is the gentleman whose name heads this article, the publisher of the Weekly Enterprise, of Grand Ridge, LaSalle county. From his boyhood he has been deeply interested in newspaper work, and, under the judicious tutelage of his father, the late lamented James E. McMullan, himself a very enterprising journalist, he mastered the details of the business when he was a mere youth, and has steadily and ambitiously striven to attain higher things in his chosen profession.

The birth of James Espey McMullan occurred in a farm-house in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, February 22, 1840. He not only learned agriculture in its various branches but also became an expert carpenter, following that calling for a number of years. He was married in the Keystone state, June 2, 1870, his bride being Miss Arabelle Bute. Three children blessed their union, of whom the eldest, Minnie, is the wife of W. J. Dearth, of Chicago; Frank E. is the subject of this sketch, and Arthur G. is a student in the Grand Ridge schools. In 1875 the family removed to Grand Ridge, with which place the interests of James E. McMullan were thenceforth to be associated. In 1882 he purchased the hardware business of E. Finley, to whom he sold out at the end of three years. Then for a few years he gave his attention to the buying and selling of live stock, and to the real-estate business. At one time he owned a large section of the land in the south end of town, where some of the finest residences here have been built within the past few years, owing to his liberality and enterprise. In 1891 the Grand Ridge Building & Improvement Company was organized, with Mr. McMullan as president, and the same year he was placed in charge of the newspaper known as the Herald, which was published by the Building & Improvement Company under the name of the Herald Publishing Company. After two years of practical experience as manager of the journal the paper was sold to Mr. C. R. Bruer, who carried it on until the plant was destroyed by fire, November 17, 1893, and even then endeavored to continue the business by having the press work done at Streator. This was unprofitable, and, believing that the time was ripe for another venture, Mr. McMullan purchased a new and complete printing outfit, and on January 4, 1894, the

first issue of the Weekly Enterprise was published by the firm of J. E. McMullan & Son. From that day until his death the senior partner lost no opportunity to build up the paper, which was essentially devoted to the promotion of the local welfare. Among the numerous industries and organizations with which he was prominently connected were the Grand Ridge Electric Light, Power & Creamery Company, and Cigar Factory No. 793. The first mentioned company, organized in 1892, erected the first power-house and introduced the fine electric-light system in this place. Unfortunately, the plant was burned to the ground July 19, 1892, though it has since been rebuilt. The creamery plant suffered the same fate, and it, too, has been re-established. Until his death Mr. McMullan was a stockholder in the new electric-light concern and in the cigar factory, both of which commanded a liberal patronage. He was an ardent Democrat, but though frequently urged to accept public office, he firmly declined, with one notable exception, when, yielding to the earnest wishes of some of his nearest friends, he acted as supervisor for one term, refusing a renomination. In his domestic life his most lovable traits of character were shown, for, while he was extremely popular with his business associates and the public in general, he reserved for the dear ones of his home circle the noblest and richest side of his nature. A thousand hearts, probably, were deeply saddened and touched when the news came of his sudden demise, March 6, 1896, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and his memory is tenderly cherished in the hearts of a host of sincere friends.

Frank E. McMullan, who is ably carrying on the newspaper work inaugurated by his father, is, as stated previously, a young man, as he was born barely twenty-three years ago. He grew to manhood here and received his preliminary education in the public schools of Grand Ridge, subsequently attending the Ottawa Business College. When about seventeen years of age he entered the printing office, and since that time has steadily risen in the journalistic world. Under his systematic business policy the Enterprise is rapidly progressing, and now commands the respect of the public. It aims to present the news, local and general, in a concise, readable manner, and as it is independent in its political attitude it can offend no one on that score. The office is well equipped with modern machinery and printing supplies, a fine press and engine and job-printing presses. The regular subscribers number about one thousand and the circulation is, of course, considerably larger. Though still publishing the Enterprise, Mr. McMullan has again entered Knox College, at Galesburg, for the purpose of finishing his education.

In his personal political views Mr. McMullan is a Democrat, and has taken a very active part in local campaign work. He is at present serving on

the county central committee and is now a village trustee. Possessing musical talent, he has been the leader of the Grand Ridge Cornet Band for some time. Socially he is held in high esteem, and is connected with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America. He was married recently, on the 25th of January, 1899, Miss Carrie B. Leighton, one of the most popular young ladies of this place, becoming his bride. She is a daughter of L. K. Leighton, a well known citizen, and is accomplished and justly admired for her numerous sterling qualities.

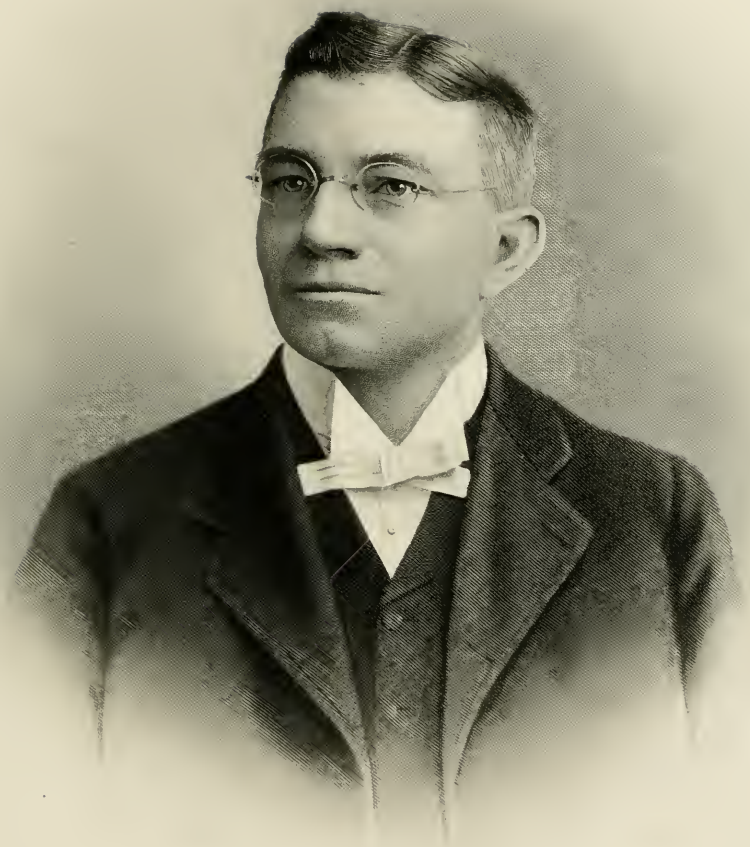
ALBERT F. SCHOCH.

No citizen of Ottawa is more thoroughly representative or more devoted to the promotion of her welfare than Albert F. Schoch, whose name is widely known for the prominent part he has taken in local affairs. Without doubt he is one of the most progressive and public-spirited men of Ottawa, and his means and influence have been used unsparingly in advancing enterprises, industries and improvements in this place, now one of the most flourishing towns of northern Illinois.

One great reason for the interest which Mr. Schoch takes in everything relating to Ottawa is that he is one of her native-born sons, his birth having occurred forty-two years ago, on the 18th of December, 1857. Both of his parents, Philip and Caroline (Sulzberger) Schoch, were born near Strasburg, Germany. The father was born in Gerstheim, Alsace, July 26, 1832, the mother born in Obenheim, Alsace, May 6, 1835. They came to the United States in 1851, locating in Ottawa. The father had learned the trade of making light and heavy harness in his native land, and he is still carrying on the business which he established in this town nearly half a century ago. The wife and mother departed this life June 1, 1885.

Albert F. Schoch is a gentleman of scholarly tastes and attainments. He is proficient in literature and science, and reads and speaks French and German almost as readily as he does English. He is proud of the fact that he obtained his elementary education in the public grammar and high schools of Ottawa, and subsequently he pursued a special course of study in a French school for two terms. When he was about eighteen years of age he took the competitive examination for admission to West Point, standing second among the twenty-two young men who presented themselves for that rigorous ordeal.

In the fall of 1873 the business career of A. F. Schoch commenced by his accepting a position as a clerk in the postoffice under J. R. Cameron. At the end of sixteen months he became connected with the National City Bank



A. F. Schoch

of Ottawa, with which institution he has since been closely identified. He proved his fidelity and perfect trustworthiness as a messenger boy, and at the end of three years was promoted to the post of bookkeeper. Three years more rolled away, and his merits and stability of character being fully recognized by the officials of the bank, he was elected as a member of the board of directors January 13, 1885, and was appointed assistant cashier on the 4th of the following month. At the end of five years, during a part of which period he had acted in the capacity of cashier, he was advanced to the honored office which he has since occupied, that of vice president of the bank. He holds a similar position in the State Bank of Seneca, LaSalle county, having been elected to the vice presidency of the institution at the time of its organization. He is treasurer of the Valley Building & Loan Association, is the owner of considerable valuable real estate and other property, and has numerous investments. In view of the fact that he commenced his business career empty-handed, his success is the more remarkable, and his record must prove an inspiration to many a young man now starting out, as he did, with no capital save brains, integrity, determination and perseverance—which, after all, is the best capital, and without which wealth, influence and position amount to naught.

Had not great financial enterprises and a multiplicity of interests demanded a large share of his time and energy Mr. Schoch might have occupied almost any local office within the gift of the people for many years past. Though he has been overtaxed at times, he has endeavored to do his duty by the public in spite of this fact, as will be seen by the brief summary following: from 1891 to 1895 he was mayor of Ottawa; from 1889 to 1891 he was city treasurer; for two terms he was a member of the board of education; was school treasurer of the congressional township, No. 33, range 3, from 1887 to 1889; was a member of the volunteer fire department for sixteen years, and was prominently mentioned at the last Republican state convention for the state treasurership. While he was mayor he succeeded in having many material improvements instituted in this place, such as the paving of streets, the laying of sewers and the building of the waterworks. He refused to allow his name to be used as a candidate for the mayoralty a third term, and retired from the office with the good will and admiration of the people for his wise, progressive policy. He has been appointed by Governor Tanner as a member of the board of special commissioners to inspect the Chicago drainage channel.

Fraternally Mr. Schoch is eminent commander of Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T., which position he has occupied for three years. At the forty-third annual conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Illinois he was elected to the position of grand warder. He belongs also

to Humboldt Lodge, No. 555, F. & A. M., and to Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Upon the 17th of December, 1879, Mr. Schoch married Miss Minnie Wolfe, a daughter of Henry Wolfe, a leading citizen of Ottawa, and they have three children, namely: Carrie S., Lulu C. and Esther S. The home of the family is unpretentious, but is a home in the best sense of the word, and to the most casual observer gives evidence of the culture and excellent taste and traits of character of its inmates.

VICTOR J. PELTIER.

The founder and superintendent of the Novelty Glass Works, a flourishing industry of Ottawa, is Victor J. Peltier, a native of the province of Lorraine, France (now German property), where his birth occurred some sixty-six years ago. His father, Joseph Peltier, was born in the same locality and spent his whole life there, and the mother, Barbara (Kresly) Peltier, was a native of Alsace, Germany.

When he had completed his education our subject commenced learning the glass-blower's trade, which calling was followed by his father, and, having mastered the business, he worked as a journeyman, chiefly in the city of Lyons, France. In 1859 he sailed for America in the good ship Aerial, bound for New York, and for a score of years he was employed at his trade in that city. In 1882 he came to Ottawa, and for the next three years was connected with the bottling works. In 1886 he and his son founded the Novelty Glass Works, which has since risen to prominence among the industries of this place. All kinds of colored and opalescent glass are manufactured here, and the products of the plant find ready sale, not only throughout the United States, but in Europe as well. Mr. Peltier is a practical and skilled workman, and not only superintends and directs the financial and commercial part of the business, but also personally supervises the actual manufacture of the glass. He employs from twelve to fifteen men and is steadily increasing his force of helpers. His excellent management and judicious control of the affairs of the business have resulted in well deserved success, and the prospects for the future are certainly flattering, as the merits of his glass have become known far beyond the seas, and "once a customer, always a customer" is the rule with all firms having dealings with him.

In 1862 Mr. Peltier and Miss Mary Peltier, daughter of Francis Peltier, were united in marriage. Her family, of the same name but not related to our subject, came to this country from Germany in 1859, and the parents both died in New York city. Peter V., who was associated with his father in busi-

ness in the Novelty Glass Works of Ottawa, died December 12, 1893, and two other children of Victor J. Peltier and wife have been called to the silent land. Those living are Louise, wife of Theodore Zellers, of Ottawa; Mary, Mrs. Fred Heiser, of this place; Joseph E., who is employed in the glass factory; Emma, bookkeeper of the glass works; Sellers, superintendent of the factory; and Kate, who is at home. Mrs. Zellers is the mother of four children and Mrs. Heiser has six children.

The home of V. J. Peltier is a substantial one, built of brick, and having pleasing surroundings. In his political creed he is a Republican, and religiously he and his family are parishioners of St. Francis German Catholic church. Fraternally Mr. Peltier belongs to the Chosen Friends' Benevolent Insurance Association.

WOODRUFF A. MOREY.

Woodruff A. Morey, president of the First National Bank of Marseilles, Illinois, was for many years the leading lawyer of the village. He was born in Manlius township, LaSalle county, July 24, 1840, being the only son in a family of five children whose parents were Vivaldia and Emily (Brown) Morey. The father was born in Orange county, New York, and was one of the family of twelve sons and four daughters of Hazard Morey, of Welsh descent. Vivaldia Morey grew to mature years in New York and about 1831 removed with his parents to Ashtabula county, Ohio, and after a few years' residence there moved to this county, in 1836. He purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres in what is now Manlius township, upon which he resided many years, carrying on general farming until he had reached an advanced age. In 1881 he moved to Petoskey, Michigan, where he died in October, 1895, in the consciousness of a well spent life, at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife, Emily, died at the same place two years before, when eighty-four years of age. She was a daughter of Lysander Brown and Salley nee Everest, and was born and reared in Bethany, Genesee county, New York, where she was married October 17, 1831. One of the ancestors of Emily Brown was banished from the Massachusetts colony with Roger Williams. It was he for whom Brown University, at Providence, Rhode Island, was named.

W. A. Morey grew to manhood on the farm upon which he was born. There he attended the district school and obtained his preliminary education. Later he entered Knox college and afterward attended the public and private schools in Ottawa. He then took up the study of law under the instructions of Hon. Washington Bushnell, a leading attorney of Ottawa. He was admitted to the bar before the supreme court at Ottawa in 1861, and soon

after began the practice of his profession. In a short time the firm of Rice & Morey was formed and a general law practice was carried on, the partners being J. B. Rice and W. A. Morey. This connection was dissolved by mutual consent, and our subject, on account of ill-health, retired to the country where with his father he carried on farming for two years. This work, however, did not afford sufficient scope to his abilities and he resumed his professional career in Marseilles, to which city he moved in 1868. He there held for many years the office of village treasurer and clerk. He has always taken an active interest in educational matters, having been a member of the board of directors and the board of education continuously for more than twenty-five years.

He was a successful practitioner and was in active practice until 1887, when he purchased of J. N. Chappel the latter's interest in the First National Bank of Marseilles, an institution that was organized in 1871 and of which Mr. Chappel was president. Since the purchase he has given his entire attention to banking and has held the office of president continuously since becoming identified with the institution.

Mr. Morey was united in marriage to Miss Helen Belknap, who died leaving two children, Harriet and Mabel; but the former died May 23, 1896. On June 13, 1872, he married Miss Addie Sherman, daughter of Orrin and Caroline (Lathrop) Sherman, of Batavia, New York, and a native of Genesee county, that state. To this union one son, W. A. Morey, Jr., was born, May 24, 1880, and at present he is a college student. Mr. Morey is and has always been a Republican in politics, conservative in his views and well posted on all topics of the day, and enjoys the confidence and respect of all who know him. He is a man of quiet and retiring disposition, always found at home after business hours in the society of his own family, surrounded by the best books and magazines of which he and his family are especially fond, counting among their possessions a library of rare value. Mabel Morey occupies at present a business position with a law firm in New York city, receiving from the Governor the appointment of notary for the firm. Mr. Morey will visit Europe the coming season on a combined business and pleasure trip.

EBIN JENNINGS WARD.

Ebin Jennings Ward, the popular ex-mayor of Marseilles, LaSalle county, is one of the native-born sons of the town, his birth having occurred here September 2, 1854.

The first mention we find of the Ward family in America was of William Ward, in 1639, in Sudbury, Connecticut. In direct descent, his son Samuel

was born September 24, 1641, and died in 1729. His son Joseph was born in 1670 and died at Marlboro June 30, 1717, aged forty-seven. Phineas Ward, born August 5, 1705, died October 19, 1756, aged fifty-one. Captain Josiah Ward, born September 4, 1741, was an officer in the Continental army and died February 27, 1795, in Henniker, New Hampshire. Josiah Ward was born September 15, 1769, and died in Croydon, New Hampshire, in 1826. Dr. Daniel Ward was one of the pioneer physicians of this place, loved and highly esteemed by all who knew him. A native of Croydon, New Hampshire, born June 6, 1810, he was a son of Josiah and Elizabeth (Hoyt) Ward, the latter a daughter of a Revolutionary war soldier. The father of the Doctor died when the latter was sixteen years of age, but he received an excellent education for that early day; and in 1834 the Vermont Academy of Medicine bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Medicine, upon his completion of his prescribed course of study. Two years later he came to Illinois, and, after residing in the town of Hennepin, Putnam county, for a short period, he located permanently in Marseilles, where he built up a fine practice and reputation for skill. He was twice married, his first wife being a Miss Mary Ann Goldwaite, of Newport, New Hampshire, and their three children were Ada A., Zina G. and Mary H.

Ebin J. is the only child of the second marriage, his mother having been Julia Belle, daughter of Levi Jennings, of Fall River, Illinois. On the mother's side were Moses Jennings, who was born August 19, 1733, and died March 26, 1813; and Levi Jennings, born July 10, 1778. His daughter, Julia Belle Jennings, was born November 13, 1819, and married Daniel Ward October 25, 1853; she died at Marseilles September 6, 1862, and was survived several years by the Doctor, whose death took place in Marseilles, March 21, 1873.

The boyhood of E. J. Ward passed quietly in this town, where he was a pupil in the grammar schools for years. In order that he might enjoy better educational advantages, he went to Chicago, in 1871, and during the following four years attended the old central high school of that city. Thence going to Yale College, he was graduated in 1878, and at once entered upon a course in civil engineering in the same institution. Having completed his work in that department in 1880, he entered the employ of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company as a civil engineer, and for a short time assisted on construction. Later he was assistant engineer in charge of bridge construction for two years with the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company.

The great project of the Chicago drainage canal becoming an assured enterprise, Mr. Ward went to Chicago and from 1890 to 1895 was one of the assistant engineers along that route for the wonderful water-way. During his connection with the sanitary district of Chicago his work consisted largely

of a careful inquiry into the feasibility and practicability of a deep water-way to connect the western end of the sanitary canal at Lockport with the Mississippi river by way of the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers.

Mr. Ward has won the highest praise for his eminently satisfactory labors, and is looked up to as an authority in his line. For the past four years he has been living retired at his pleasant home in Marseilles, devoting his time to his private business interests. He owns considerable valuable property, and is one of the well-to-do citizens of this place. Politically he is a Republican in national affairs, reserving the right of independent action in local elections, where the suitability of the nominee for a given position takes precedence of everything else. In 1897 Mr. Ward was honored by his fellow citizens, who elected him to the position of mayor. During the two years of his term of office, he made a record of which he may justly be proud.

On the 5th day of October, 1881, Mr. Ward married Miss Anne Randolph Vaughan, who was born January 27, 1857. They have one daughter, Julia Jennings, born April 4, 1887. Mrs. Ward, a lady of fine education and social attainments, is a daughter of Dr. Isaac P. Vaughan, of Glasgow, Missouri.

B. B. HOLLAND.

The Pioneer Fire-Proof Construction Company, of Ottawa, one of the largest industries of the kind in the United States, if not in the world, has for its local general manager and superintendent B. B. Holland, a gentleman well equipped by years of experience for so important and responsible a position. A brief description of this valuable plant may prove of interest to the general public.

Organized in 1880, under its present title, the Pioneer Fire-Proof Construction Company rapidly rose to prominence and now occupies a distinctive place in the world of business. The officers are Colonel G. M. Moulton, president; C. F. Eiker, treasurer, and W. A. Moulton, secretary. The company owns large fire-clay banks, a mile and a half distant from the works, and connected therewith by their own private electric railway, and, including said clay banks, the property in possession of the concern here amounts to about two hundred and fifty acres. The output of the works, exclusive of fire-brick, paving and sidewalk brick, is estimated at about fifty thousand tons per annum. The chief product is hollow tile, now so extensively used in the construction of fire-proof buildings, and particularly in the noted "sky-scrapers," or tall office buildings, where a skeleton of steel framework carries the entire weight of the walls and flooring. In such modern structures

the floors and partition-walls are made of the hollow fire-proof tile. The immense volume of business transacted by the company of which we are writing may be inferred when it is stated that two-thirds of the numerous great office buildings of Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Omaha, and all the cities of the Mississippi valley region and the northwest have been built of fire-proof tiling furnished by them. The plant in which this important product is manufactured is a fine, large, well equipped establishment, and within the various departments of the business employment is given to upwards of two hundred and fifty hands. One of the main buildings, designated as A, is a square, U-shaped structure, one hundred and seventy-five feet wide and two hundred feet deep; the left wing seventy-five and the right wing fifty feet wide. Building B, with three drying floors and a basement, is two hundred feet long and forty feet deep. The principal motor is water, and it requires the steam of six boilers of three hundred and fifty horse-power to run two steam presses, to heat the buildings and furnish steam for the dry floors. In the yards there are twenty-six kilns, seven of which are twenty feet in diameter, eighteen are twenty-two feet, and one is thirty feet, inside measurement. To fill the last mentioned it requires six men working for two days. About fifty or sixty thousand fire brick can be turned out by the two steam presses a day. From the above statements, some idea of the difficulty of properly managing such an extensive establishment may be gathered. Certain it is that during the eleven or twelve years of Mr. Holland's connection with the company he has always had great responsibility upon his shoulders and has faithfully met every requirement of his office.

We now proceed to give a brief personal sketch of our subject, his ancestry, etc. John Holland was born in England in 1777, and came to America, locating in Brooks county, Virginia, in 1806, where John W., the father of our subject, was born, October 23, 1810. In 1816 they moved to Brookville, Franklin county, Indiana, where they remained until 1829, then removing to Lawrenceburg, same state, and in 1830 to Indianapolis, where John W. Holland was united in marriage, in 1846, to Eliza J. Roll, a daughter of Solomon Roll, a native of Ohio. In 1847 John W. Holland established the first wholesale grocery in Indianapolis, remaining in that business continuously until 1877, when he retired from business. He died in May, 1884, and his wife passed away June 30, 1894. They were the parents of three children: Pamelia H., Benjamin B. and William G., all of whom are living.

Benjamin B. was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, March 29, 1852, and received a good education, being a student at the Indianapolis high school. When the state-house was being erected, he was made the superintendent of the Spencer quarry, which furnished building stone for the building, and

later was made the superintendent of construction, having charge of the erection of the building for the contractors, and at the same time was associated with Mr. Rush S. Denig in supplying ties to the Nickel Plate Railroad at the time of its construction. In this capacity he remained until 1887, in which year he came to Ottawa. Few men have been more enterprising and energetic, and few citizens of Ottawa are more highly esteemed than he. As a Republican, he has taken great interest in the prosperity of his party.

July 12, 1871, Mr. Holland was married, in his native city, to Miss Laura F. Jordon, a daughter of John Jordon, a prominent merchant of Indianapolis. Edith, the eldest child of our subject and wife, married C. W. McGuire, the auditor of the Evansville & Louisville Railroad at Evansville. Lillie E. is the wife of E. C. Walters, the cashier of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad at Ottawa. Mary D. is living with her parents at home. The family are members of the Baptist church and are identified with various enterprises calculated to benefit humanity. Mr. Holland is genial, frank and warm-hearted by nature, and possesses the friendship of a host of acquaintances.

WILLIAM D. ISERMANN.

William D. Isermann, supervisor of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is a well known citizen of the county. Born January 16, 1861, in the township in which he now lives, he is a son of German parents and possesses many of the characteristics which have contributed to the success of the German people wherever they have settled in this country. His parents, William and Frederica (Stoplar) Isermann, were born, reared and married in Germany, and shortly after their marriage they emigrated to this country and settled in LaSalle county, Illinois. Here they made for themselves a comfortable home, and here sons and daughters to the number of seven were born to them. Of this number six are still living, namely: Charles S., of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois; Carrie, wife of J. C. Hitter, of this same township; Emma, wife of John Albrecht, of Pottawattamie county, Iowa; William D., whose name introduces this sketch; Fred, of Streator, Illinois; and Charlotte, wife of L. Schoenleber. One daughter, Dorothea, died at the age of eighteen years.

By the death of his father, William D. Isermann was left an orphan when ten years old, and he was reared by Adam Diller, who early trained him to farm work and gave him the advantage of a good public-school education.

Mr. Isermann was married at the age of twenty-two years, to Miss Mary Lindemann, a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of

Rev. Charles and Mauda (Joquet) Lindemann. Mr. and Mrs. Isermann have had five children born to them—Carl H., Carrie F., Harry W., Fritz L. and Florence M. Mrs. Isermann is a member of the Evangelical church.

Mr. Isermann has at different times served in several local offices. For six years he was commissioner of highways, and, as already stated, is now township supervisor. He is a Republican in political adherency, and fraternally is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, Camp No. 4, of Streator.

DANIEL R. BURKE.

A prominent member of the bar of Ottawa, who has spent the early years of his life in fitting himself for the profession which he adorns, is Daniel R. Burke. He was born in Ottawa, June 7, 1867, a son of Patrick and Margaret (Cummings) Burke, both natives of Ireland. His father came from Longford and the mother from Tipperary, were married in Canada and soon after came to the United States, settling in Ottawa. Here the father opened a general merchandise store and later admitted a partner, namely, Daniel Heenan. The firm of Burke & Heenan was one of the largest and most successful mercantile houses here for many years. In 1872, Patrick Burke retired from the business and died one year later. He was a prominent Democrat and a liberal, public-spirited citizen. He was at one time mayor of the city and was a man who was liked by every one. The wife and five children survive him. The children are Thomas A.; Charles, of Chicago; James P., also of Chicago; William J.; and Daniel.

Except the years spent in college, Daniel R. Burke has always resided in Ottawa. As a lad he attended the public school, preparing for college in the high school of his city. He then entered the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, graduating in the law department of that institution in 1888, when twenty-one years of age. Returning home he at once began practicing his profession, and soon formed a partnership with Hon. Maurice T. Maloney. The firm of Maloney & Burke was dissolved in 1892, when Mr. Maloney was elected to the office of attorney general of Illinois, holding the office four years. Mr. Burke was then a partner with D. F.Trainer, the noted criminal lawyer, for one year, since which time he has conducted a general law office by himself.

In 1892 Mr. Burke was united in marriage to Miss Mary A. Fennell, of Ottawa, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Ryan) Fennell, prominent residents of the county. They have one child, Margaret M. Burke. Mr. Burke belongs to the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, and is president of the North

American Insurance Society. He is a strong Democrat, and takes an active part in local politics. He is a member of the central and congressional committees, and ably represented the city as attorney at one time. He is affable and pleasant, gaining the friendship and good will of all classes.

JAMES W. STEVENSON.

The venerable postmaster of Sunrise, LaSalle county, Illinois, is one of the most popular and widely known residents of the county, having taken an active part in all public affairs of local import that have engaged the attention of the citizens of this community since his residence here,—a period embracing half a century.

James W. Stevenson, who was born in Warren county, New Jersey, April 30, 1827, is a son of John and Hannah (Wilson) Stevenson, and a grandson of Joseph Stevenson. John Stevenson also was born in the state of New Jersey, where he grew to manhood and engaged in tilling the soil. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and was a man of most exemplary character. Hannah Wilson, the lady to whom he was united in marriage, was born in Warren county, New Jersey, and was a daughter of Gabriel and Grace (Brotherton) Wilson, both of whom were of English descent. Eight children resulted from this marriage, namely: Joseph, a resident of Pasadena, California; James W., whose history is here briefly portrayed; Samuel, deceased, late of Pennsylvania; Almira Deats, of New Jersey; William, who died in Sayre, Pennsylvania; Edwin, who was drowned when he was about twenty-one years old; Daniel, a resident of Streator, Illinois; and Walter, who resides in Pasadena, California. The father died at the age of fifty-four years and was survived many years by his wife, who made her home in this township until her eighty-seventh year, when she also passed to her reward, the date of her death being March 20, 1889.

James W. Stevenson was reared in New Jersey, attending the public schools and the West Town Friends' Boarding School. He was employed for some years as an instructor in the schools of that state, and in 1849 came to Illinois, locating in Rutland township, LaSalle county. About 1851 he returned to New Jersey and remained there two years, when he came back to this county and took up his permanent residence here, on the farm now owned and cultivated by him. This contains two hundred and eighty acres of land, one hundred and sixty of which is under cultivation. Good, substantial buildings lend an added charm, while a large orchard furnishes an abundance of finely flavored fruit, such as is grown no place else except on the broad prairie land of Illinois.

In 1851 Mr. Stevenson was married to Miss Comfort A. Millikin, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Williams) Millikin, and a native of Licking county, Ohio, where she was educated. Her parents were early settlers of LaSalle county, and both died in Rutland township. Eight children were born to them, of whom six daughters and one son are living, namely: Comfort A., wife of our subject; Sarah Russell, a resident of Iowa; Minerva Smith, also of Iowa; Amanda L. Wightman, of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Jerusha Kelley, of Grant City, Missouri; Samuel; and Lucy Parr.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson were born six children, namely: Emma, who lives at home; John, who married Miss Florence Garver, by whom he has two children, Grace Eva and Roy; Edward, a bridge-builder of Toledo, Ohio; Ernest, a talented musician, who married Miss Mamie Vail and has two children, James Vail and Elmira C.; William, who married Miss Mabel Spencer; and Byron, who died at the age of thirty years.

Mr. Stevenson is a stanch Republican and has taken a prominent interest in township, county and state politics, rendering much aid to the party organization. He has served for twelve years on the board of supervisors, representing Otter Creek township, and for thirty-one years has acted as postmaster of Sunrise, Illinois, discharging his duties in a thorough and conscientious manner, which qualities have been among the chief characteristics of the man. He is now in his seventy-second year, but is hale and hearty, with a good word for every one. His upright, Christian life has made him generally loved and respected, and no man stands higher in the esteem of the general public than he.

MILLARD F. BOVARD.

Millard F. Bovard, the editor and proprietor of the Marseilles Register, is one of the representative citizens of LaSalle county. He was born in East Liverpool, Ohio, in 1856, a son of Oliver K. and Mahala (Herin) Bovard. When he was but six years of age our subject's father died, and ten years later the devoted mother was summoned to her reward.

Thus left an orphan at an early age, Millard F. Bovard was thrown upon his own resources, and nobly and manfully he met the new responsibilities of his position. Realizing that the basis of success in after life was a liberal education, he applied himself to his studies with assiduity. Locating in Bloomington, Illinois, in 1871, subsequently to the death of his mother, he attended school there for a period, and during the next year commenced an apprenticeship at the printer's trade in the office of the Bloomington Pantagraph. He devoted his whole attention to journalistic work for the next eight years, after which he taught school for a period, and served as

superintendent of city schools in McLean and Livingston counties for about fifteen years. He then conducted a newspaper at Forest, Illinois, for a year or two, and upon disposing of it came to Marseilles, in August, 1895. Here he bought the Register, a six-column quarto, which he has published ever since. The paper, which is issued daily and weekly, enjoys a large local circulation. Republican in politics, it is not offensively partisan, but aims to be conservative and liberal in judgment, and to present to its readers a brief, yet comprehensive digest of the great affairs engrossing the world's attention, and at the same time to chronicle local events of interest.

Mr. Bovard is thoroughly interested in the public schools, and has acted as a member of the Marseilles board of education. For years he has been a member of the Congregational church, and is now chorister, his ability in this direction being quite pronounced.

In April, 1879, Mr. Bovard married Miss Jennie Plank, a daughter of Horace and Louisa Plank, natives of Massachusetts, and now residents of Marseilles. Two sons and two daughters bless the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bovard, namely: Edna L., who is a successful teacher in the town schools; Horace R.; Mahala Blanche; and Millard F., Jr. It is needless to say that the children are receiving excellent educational advantages, and are thus being fitted in the wisest manner for the future battle of life.

CAPTAIN THOMAS C. FULLERTON.

Many an old army comrade who had fought by his side and shared the hardships and privations of army life during the great civil war, many a member of the legal profession and those associated with him in fraternal and political relations mourned the sudden death of Captain Thomas C. Fullerton, of Ottawa, and treasure his memory. Helpful in example, wise in counsel, eloquent in speech, kindly and generous in disposition and conspicuous in action, his life challenges our admiration and bids us emulate his worthy career.

A native of Marion township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, Captain Fullerton was born August 21, 1839, and accompanied his parents to Illinois in the fall of 1855, locating upon a farm near Freedom. Upon the 25th of September, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company A, Sixty-fourth Illinois Infantry (known as "Yates' Sharpshooters"), and was appointed orderly sergeant at the end of one month. On June 28, 1863, he was promoted to the first lieutenancy and became adjutant of the regiment, and April 2, 1864, he was commissioned and mustered in as captain of Company C, at the same time being appointed acting assistant inspector general on the

staff of General Sprague, commanding the Second Brigade, Fourth Division, Sixteenth Army Corps. Twenty days later he was assigned to the same position on the staff of General G. M. Dodge, commanding the left wing of the Sixteenth Army Corps. When that general was wounded, in August, and was succeeded by T. E. G. Ransom, next in command, Captain Fullerton continued to act in the same position as formerly, remaining until October, 1864, when he was assigned to duty as aide-de-camp on the staff of General Ransom. The Captain took part in some of the most momentous campaigns of the war, always distinguishing himself by his bravery and faithful performance of duty. He fought under Pope at New Madrid, Island Number 10, and Fort Pillow; took part in the siege of Corinth, Iuka and the famous Atlanta campaign, which was an almost continuous battle from Resaca to Jonesboro.

Returning to the north in the fall of 1864, Captain Fullerton studied law in the office of Glover, Cook & Campbell, of Ottawa, and was admitted to the bar in January, 1866. Then, going to Alabama,—for the south had many attractions for him, in spite of the sad and dreadful memories which were ever associated with it in his mind,—he opened an office at Huntsville. On the 24th of August, 1866, he was appointed assistant district attorney of the United States for the northern district of Alabama. Unsolicited, and indeed against his wishes, he was elected the state's attorney of Madison county, Alabama, in the autumn election of 1868, and refused to qualify for that office. In the previous June he had been appointed register in bankruptcy, and served until January, 1871, when he resigned. Removing to Washington, District of Columbia, he practiced before the various courts and commissions there until November, 1881, when he returned to Ottawa. From that time until his death he was actively engaged in the practice of law here, and from 1888 filled the position of master in chancery with ability and distinction. For six years, from 1884 to 1890, he was chairman of the Republican county central committee, and conducted five campaigns in five successive years. Elevated to higher honors, he acted as one of the state central committee of his party from 1890, meeting the expectations of his most sanguine friends in every respect, and well meriting the title of a party leader. His name was presented and he was nominated at Streator, Illinois, for congress, and it was while absent from home, aggressive in the work of the campaign, that the summons came to him to cease from his labors. He died suddenly, of heart failure, and the funeral services were conducted under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic—that "grand army" of heroes whose ranks are diminishing year by year.

The Captain was connected with the Grand Army organization from 1866, and was one of the charter members of Seth C. Earl Post, No. 156,

which was founded in the fall of 1882. He was the commander of the post for some time, and served in various capacities, such as senior vice commander, assistant inspector general, on the council of administration, and as a member of the Soldiers' Home committee. He made a point of attending the state and national encampments, and thoroughly enjoyed meeting those who had "worn the blue" and fought for the Union. He belonged to the Ottawa Club, the Ottawa Boat Club, and was a Mason of the Knight Templar degree, being connected with Ottawa Commandery, No. 10. He was loved and looked up to by an extremely large circle of acquaintances, and his life was in harmony with the noblest and best principles which animate mankind.

DR. DAVID F. COTTERMAN.

Dr. Cotterman is the leading dentist in Marseilles, LaSalle county, Illinois, having established an office in this city in 1891. He was born December 15, 1859, in Miami county, Indiana, his parents being Noah and Catherine (Weaver) Cotterman, and his grandfather Andrew Cotterman. The great-grandfather was a native of Germany. The mother is a daughter of David and Harriet (Mason) Weaver, and is now in her eighty-sixth year. As nearly as can be ascertained the Weavers were also descended from German origin.

David F. Cotterman spent his earlier years on the farm, and attended the district schools in his native state during the winter terms. He then entered a select school, and after leaving that engaged in teaching for six years. He then accepted a position with the United States government as railway postal clerk, his run being between Toledo, Ohio, and St. Louis, Missouri. He remained in this service four years and then began studying dentistry under Dr. J. H. Hutton, of Hoopeston, this state. Entering the Chicago College of Dental Surgery he graduated in the class of 1891, of which he was president. He at once came to Marseilles, purchased the business and good will of Dr. R. N. Baughman, and is now established in a good, lucrative practice, while his offices are pleasantly furnished and equipped with the most approved appliances necessary to his craft. His work in all lines of modern dentistry has the reputation of giving the best satisfaction and being most durable in quality. He has a steadily increasing business, and his popularity is but the outgrowth of the conscientious performance of his work.

October 7, 1882, Dr. Cotterman was married to Miss Laura Rawlings, daughter of Mortimer Rawlings, of Indiana. She died in December, 1893, leaving four children: Jessie, born July 26, 1883; Homer, February 21, 1886; Laurance, March 31, 1891; and Frances, November 10, 1892.

The Doctor's residence is one of the handsomest in Marseilles, situated on the bluffs, and commanding a picturesque view of the village and the Illinois river. The Doctor is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He was president of the board of education for two years and rendered the cause of education much valuable service. He has been treasurer of a private library fund for some time,—an institution he was largely instrumental in establishing. He is the able manager of the Columbian opera-house in Marseilles, and it has been his endeavor to furnish the theater-loving public with a course of entertainments that would elevate as well as amuse. The Doctor is genial and pleasant to all and has endeared himself to the entire community by his upright, manly bearing.

CLARENCE B. CHAPMAN.

Clarence B. Chapman, an honored member of the LaSalle county bar, and ex-county attorney of this county, was born in Princeton, Illinois, January 1, 1857, and is consequently in the prime of life and mental vigor. His birthplace was in Princeton, Bureau county, Illinois, and his boyhood was passed quietly enough upon his father's farm there. His parents were O. E. and Sarah L. (Beeman) Chapman, natives of Medina county, Ohio. The Chapmans were of English extraction, and the paternal grandfather of our subject, Sceva Chapman, was born in Vermont, while the maternal grandfather, Milton Beeman, was a native of Connecticut.

In common with the other boys of his neighborhood, Clarence B. Chapman obtained his elementary education in the district schools of Bureau county. He was an apt student and, being ambitious in the acquisition of knowledge, made rapid progress. In 1878 he was graduated in the high school of Princeton, and two years later he received a diploma from the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, being graduated in the law department. The same year, 1880, he came to Ottawa and entered into partnership with M. N. Armstrong, under the firm name of Armstrong & Chapman. At the close of three years this business connection was dissolved, and our subject practiced alone until 1887, when he became associated with Duncan McDougall, with whom he continues, the style of the firm being McDougall & Chapman. During nine months, commencing in July, 1886, Mr. Chapman was located in Beatrice, Nebraska. McDougall & Chapman command a large share of local legal work, and many of their clients live in more or less distant parts of the county. Mr. Chapman is an earnest advocate, thoroughly understands the law, and presents his cases to judge and jury in an impressive, clear and logical manner, which carries conviction to the minds of his hearers. He is a Republican in politics, and, having been

elected to the responsible position of county attorney, he served in that capacity, acceptably to all concerned, from September, 1894, to the fall of 1896. For four years he was the secretary of the Republican county central committee, doing effective work for the party.

On the 12th of October, 1886, Mr. Chapman married Miss Katie H. Ebersol, a daughter of Daniel S. Ebersol, of Ottawa. Socially he belongs to the Masonic order, in which he ranks high, as he is a member of Humboldt Lodge, No. 555, F. & A. M.; Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. In the Independent Order of Odd Fellows he is identified with Ottawa Lodge, No. 41.

SAMUEL WAUGH.

Among the well-known and respected citizens of LaSalle county is numbered the subject of this review, Samuel Waugh, a farmer of Peru. He came to this place more than a half century ago, before the time of railroads, when the stage-coach was the only public means of travel overland. Peru at that time was at the head of navigation on the Illinois river, and was an important business point, and the city of LaSalle was regarded as the rival of Chicago as a general market. Mr. Waugh's subsequent active business career was such as to afford him great opportunities to observe the growth and development of this section of Illinois. In the early days transportation was by river, later by canal, and subsequently railroads were constructed across the broad prairies, and business was correspondingly increased as time and space were thus annihilated. He witnessed the opening of the Illinois and Michigan canal on the 15th of April, 1848, and was a citizen of Peru during the dreadful Asiatic cholera scourge of 1849, at which time more fatalities occurred in Peru in proportion to the population than in any other city in the United States.

Mr. Waugh was born in the Ligonier Valley of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, January 22, 1828, his parents being James and Jane (Parke) Waugh, who were also natives of the Keystone state. The paternal grandfather, Richard Waugh, was of Scotch descent, was a native of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and a farmer by occupation. He possessed a very practical turn of mind, and when the war of 1812 broke out he saw an opportunity of bettering his fortunes and at the same time serve the government. To this end he engaged in the transportation of troops and supplies, a task at once arduous and difficult. William Parke, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and was the son of Zebulon Parke, of the same county, who served with

Samuel Waugh

distinction in the Revolutionary war under General Washington for a period of seven years. William Parke was a farmer by occupation and came west with the Waugh family, spending his last days at Lost Grove, Illinois. He died at the advanced age of eighty-eight years, and left six children. James and Jane (Parke) Waugh were the parents of eleven children, five sons and six daughters, of whom eight are living, namely: William, of Rapid City, South Dakota; Samuel, of this review; Catherine, wife of A. T. Hagan of Los Angeles, California; James, of Princeton, Illinois; Caroline, wife of Nathan Linton of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Mary A., of Los Angeles, California; Martha, of Chicago, Illinois; and Rankin, who is connected with the Union Stockyards in Chicago. In early life James Waugh, the father of our subject, was a member of a stage-coach company in Pennsylvania, and for many years was engaged in carrying United States mail between Philadelphia and Pittsburg. He was also the proprietor of a hotel in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. In October of 1847 he came with his family to the west, locating in Peru, Illinois, where he conducted the well-known National Hotel, then a leading hostelry in northern Illinois. As many as from ten to fifteen coaches would each morning depart from the hotel carrying their passengers to the various surrounding towns. He conducted the business until the fall of 1849, when he removed to Lost Grove, Bureau county, Illinois, and there purchased a farm, after which he devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits until his death in 1863, in his sixty-fifth year. His wife survived him only about six weeks, and was fifty-five years of age at the time of her death.

Samuel Waugh, of this review, came with his father to Peru in October, 1847, and was associated with him in the conduct of the National Hotel until April, 1849, when he left the parental fireside to engage in business for himself. His first venture was in buying cattle, a business to which he gave his time for forty-five years. To use his own words, he "spent forty-five years in the saddle, traveling on horseback over a great part of northern Illinois, buying cattle." Thus he became well acquainted throughout this section of the state, and, being a keen and close observer and possessed of a strong, retentive memory, the writer found Mr. Waugh one who could talk in a most interesting manner of the early days, giving very lucid descriptions of the changes that had taken place in the growth and development of this region. He had acquired a fair education in a select and later the district schools of his native state, and the greater part of his youth had been spent upon the farm. He began his connection with cattle dealing as an employe of a firm of Peru, which also did considerable business in LaSalle. He was connected therewith until the spring of 1853, when, in company with Jesse Dresser, he started with a drove of cattle to California, a very

arduous undertaking. They left Princeton, Illinois, on the 6th of April, 1853, and reached the Sacramento valley in September of the same year. After disposing of their cattle Mr. Waugh went to the mines of St. Louis, Sierra county, that state, and was engaged in mining and butchering for nine years. In 1862 he returned to Illinois, and until 1871 was interested in the ice business in Peru and in Cairo, Illinois, being associated with his brothers-in-law, A. T. Hagan and Nathan Linton. From the latter date until 1877 he was engaged in farming and stock-raising, after which he conducted a live-stock commission business in Chicago, in company with his brother, Rankin Waugh, until 1894. In April of that year he withdrew from the business and returned to his farm in LaSalle county.

During the early days when he first engaged in buying cattle Mr. Waugh traveled from Peru over as many as a dozen counties in northern Illinois. This wide scope of territory he had to cover in order to purchase sufficient fat cattle, sheep and hogs to supply the markets of Peru and LaSalle, which cities were then enjoying great prosperity on account of the building of canals and railroads and the consequent increase in trade. At that time, too, the country was sparsely settled and the farmers did not, as to-day, engage so extensively in stock-raising. Mr. Waugh was among the first to ship cattle to the Chicago market. As early as November, 1849, in company with W. P. Ankney of Somerset, Pennsylvania, he bought a large number of cattle and drove them to Chicago, selling them to Gurdon S. Hubbard, one of the very first packers of Chicago, which city at that time contained a population of less than thirty thousand. Mr. Waugh's fine farm of five hundred and sixty acres is situated in Peru township, one mile from the city of Peru. As a successful farmer and stock-raiser he ranks among the most prominent in this section of the state. It is well known that Illinois takes the lead as a grain-producing state, and it is safe to say that the farm of Mr. Waugh is among the best and most carefully tended in the heart of the state. In 1894 he erected an attractive modern residence in Peru, which has since been his home.

In politics Mr. Waugh has never been an office-seeker, but he has always been a stalwart Republican and has kept abreast with the advancement in the political and business world. Progressive and aggressive, and by nature energetic and persevering, his success in life has been well merited. In this locality he has long had a wide acquaintance, and his fair dealing with his fellowmen has won for him innumerable friends. For a number of years he has resided in Peru, but has continued actively in agricultural affairs, and his son, Charles L. Waugh, a progressive and successful agriculturist, has charge of his farm.

On the 14th of October, 1868, Mr. Waugh and Miss Elizabeth Maze

were united in the holy bonds of wedlock. The lady was a daughter of S. N. Maze, of Peru, and is highly respected. Three children have been born to them, namely: Jessie, wife of W. E. Means, of Peru; Charles L.; and Elizabeth. Mrs. Waugh is a member of the Forty-first Street Presbyterian church of Chicago, and contributes liberally to its support.

BERNARD T. KEATING.

Bernard T. Keating deals largely in real estate and represents several insurance companies in Streator, Illinois. He was born in Bothwell, Scotland, April 24, 1857, and came to America October 18, 1879, and in all these years has proved himself a most worthy citizen. James and Alice (Cunningham) Keating, his parents, were born in Ireland, shortly after marriage moved to Scotland, and came to this country in 1882, locating in Streator. James Keating died in 1897, in his seventy-fifth year, his wife dying three years previously, when she was sixty-five years of age.

Mr. Keating was educated in the common schools of Scotland and when twenty-two years old came to the United States, arriving in New York in 1879. He at once proceeded to this city, where he has since made his home. He worked for several years in the coal mine, beginning as a coal digger, and advanced through the several departments to be superintendent of the mine. In 1883 he began dealing in real estate, handling both city and farm property, and has been quite successful in making trades and sales. He also represents a number of insurance companies, both fire and life, and at present is district manager of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

In 1881 Mr. Keating was married to Miss Helen Lafferty, daughter of Frederick and Margaret Lafferty, of Streator. They have five children, Margaret, Bernard, Frederick, Richard and Bessie. For a number of years Mr. Keating has been secretary of the Home Building and Loan Association of this city, using his utmost endeavors to promote the advancement of the city's interests. He was also a member of the board of education for three years. He has taken a decided stand in favor of temperance, and was president of the Father Mathews Total Abstinence Society of Streator and ex-treasurer of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of Illinois. We wish more such men might be induced to make their homes in America. In the spring of 1899 he was elected secretary of the executive committee of the Citizens' League, an organization combining the memberships of the various churches in the city, for the purpose of seeing that the laws were duly enforced. Largely through his efforts the saloon-keepers were forced to respect the

law and all gambling devices were removed from the saloons. In recognition of his services in this work the Citizens' League in convention unanimously nominated Mr. Keating for the office of mayor, and although he was pledged the support of the League and a host of other citizens in sympathy with the movement, he respectfully declined the honor.

WALTER B. PALMER.

"The proper study of mankind is man," said Pope; and aside from this, in its broader sense, what base of study and information have we? Genealogical research, then, has its value,—be it in the tracing of an obscure and broken line, or the following back of a noble and illustrious lineage whose men have been valorous, whose women of gentle refinement. We of this end-of-the-century, democratic type can not afford to scoff at or hold in light esteem the bearing up of a " 'scutcheon upon whose fair face appears no sign or blot"; and he should thus be the more honored who honors a noble name and the memory of noble deeds. The lineage of the subject of this review is one of most distinguished and interesting order, and no apology need be made in reverting to this in connection with the individual accomplishments of the subject himself.

Justus Palmer, the great-great-grandfather of him whose name introduces this review, was a resident of Norwich, Connecticut, where his son Ephraim was born December 17, 1760. On the 27th of August, 1786, the latter married Margaret Force, and on the 30th of June, 1852, he was called to his final rest. During the war of the Revolution he valiantly served in the Continental army, and thus aided in establishing American independence. His eldest son, Thomas Force Palmer, was born June 13, 1787, and on the 30th of May, 1815, married Rebecca Snow. They became the parents of six children, the third child and second son being Ephraim M. Palmer, who was born December 13, 1828, in Cattaraugus county, New York. In 1831 the family removed to Medina county, Ohio, and the succeeding eighteen years of Ephraim Palmer's life were passed on a farm in the Buckeye state. In 1847 he removed to Sugar Grove, Kendall county, Illinois, and in the spring of 1849 came to Freedom township, LaSalle county, having previously purchased a land warrant for one hundred acres. On locating thus in the southwestern corner of Freedom township, securing thereby eighty acres of land, this was the first property he had ever owned. The deed came to him direct from the government, and the land is still a part of his estate. In the fall of 1849 he made a trip across the plains to California, where he remained for nearly eight years, meeting with fair success in his business ventures on

the Pacific coast. He then returned to Freedom township, and soon afterward purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Ophir township.

On the 13th of June, 1861, Ephraim Palmer was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Butler, of Ophir township, LaSalle county, the eldest child of Ebenezer and Nancy (Butterfield) Butler. On the father's side of the family they are descendants of Nicholas Butler, who was born at Martha's Vineyard in 1662. His son, Benjamin Butler, was married in 1769 to Amy Daggett, and in 1790 they became the parents of a son, Benjamin, Jr., who was born at Martha's Vineyard, and he married Huldah Bradford, a relative of Governor Bradford, of Massachusetts. They removed to Avon, Maine, where Benjamin, their second son, was born May 18, 1808. There Benjamin Butler married Nancy Butterfield, on the 24th of December, 1833, and on the 16th of November, 1834, they became the parents of a daughter, Sarah, whose birth occurred in Anson, Maine, and who, in 1861, became the wife of Mr. Palmer. On the maternal side Mrs. Palmer traces her ancestry back to Jonas Butterfield, who was born in Dunstable, Massachusetts, September 12, 1742. He was a member of the home guards or minute men, and marched from Dunstable to Cambridge on the alarm of April 19, 1775. Four of his brothers were soldiers in the Revolutionary war, and the military history of the family is one of which the descendants may well be proud. His son, John Butterfield, was born April 16, 1780, and on the 25th of June, 1800, married Sybil Willerd, who was born August 17, 1782. Their daughter, Nancy Butterfield, was born September 25, 1808, and became the wife of Ebenezer Butler and the mother of Mrs. Palmer. To Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Palmer were born two children,—Carrie, born September 1, 1865, who died on the 30th of September, of the same year, and Walter, the surviving son, who was born June 22, 1868. In the spring of the latter year the father removed to his farm in Freedom township, a tract containing two hundred acres of very valuable land. In 1881 a niece of Mrs. Palmer, then an infant, became an inmate of their home, and has since been a daughter in the household. Her name is Agnes Butler, but she has always been called Agnes Palmer.

In his political views Mr. Palmer was a stanch Republican, unswerving in his advocacy of the principles of the party. He filled a number of positions of public trust, including those of assessor, commissioner and a member of the school board. The cause of education found in him a warm friend, and for nearly thirty years he was regarded as a leader in every movement that tended to advance the educational interests of his community. He was at all times an honest, upright man, whose word was as good as his bond, and over his life record there falls no shadow or wrong or suspicion of evil. In January, 1892, he was attacked by la grippe, which was followed by pneu-

monia, and on the 30th of that month his life's labors were ended in death. Throughout the community his loss was deeply mourned and his memory is cherished in the hearts of all who knew him.

Walter B. Palmer, his only surviving child, was married in September, 1889, to Miss Ina Lardin, a daughter of John and Elizabeth Lardin and a sister of Judge A. T. Lardin, of Ottawa. She was a lady of culture, who had many warm friends, but in May, 1891, she died of consumption. In November, 1893, Walter B. Palmer and his mother came to Ottawa and took up their abode in the beautiful modern residence which they had erected. In December, 1894, he was again married, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Frances White, a daughter of William and Nellie (Barger) White, formerly of Davenport, Iowa, where her father was a prominent lawyer. Mr. Palmer has always loved a fine horse, and has owned some of the best in the country. He has been very successful in those which have been put upon the race track, and each year he has a number of fine trotters and pacers that are displayed at fairs and upon other race courses. His life has been spent in LaSalle county, where he has a wide acquaintance, and he and his estimable wife enjoy the hospitality of the best homes of Ottawa.

ABRAM C. GODFREY.

For almost half a century the Godfreys, father and son, have been numbered among the progressive business men of Ottawa. They have been noted for their public spirit and liberality toward all local enterprises of a character that would tend to promote the welfare of the community.

Philip, father of Abram Godfrey, was born in Cork, Ireland, but came to America when young. At eighteen years of age he wedded Miss Mary Avary, a native of New York, and in 1850 this sterling couple came to Ottawa. For thirty-seven years Mr. Godfrey was successfully engaged in the grocery business, retiring in 1887 to enjoy the competence which he had won by years of diligence and indefatigable energy. He embarked in merchandising with the small capital of eighty dollars in gold, but he possessed much more pluck than money, and in the end this quality proved of even more value, for in time he became well-to-do and respected as a man of uprightness and fairness in all his dealings.

The birth of Abram C. Godfrey occurred in Ottawa, April 6, 1859, and here he passed his boyhood, working, at intervals, in his father's store, and early acquiring valuable knowledge of the business. Desiring a little wider experience in the commercial world, he went to Chicago in 1884, and for one year was employed by Fairbanks, Morse & Company. He then returned

to Streator, Illinois, and was with Dennis Fielding in a shoe store for two years. In 1887, upon the occasion of his father's retirement from business, our subject assumed the management of the store, and has continued to enjoy the favor of our leading citizens as his customers.

On the 5th of November, 1894, Mr. Godfrey and Bertha T. Taylor, a daughter of W. W. Taylor, of Ottawa, were united in marriage. They have one child, Margaret Louise, born July 17, 1898. For over ten years Mr. Godfrey has been a member of the Masonic order, and, like his honored father, is actively interested in the success of the Republican party. He has served efficiently as an alderman while Albert F. Schoch was mayor, the administration being known as the "improvement council."

JAMES SEXTON.

The gentleman whose name initiates this sketch is one of the retired farmers of LaSalle county, who makes his home in the town of Streator. He is an Englishman by birth, but has been a resident of America since his eleventh year. His history in brief is as follows:

James Sexton was born in Norfolk county, England, in 1846, a son of Stephen Sexton, who was born in Norfolk, December 1, 1810, and Mary (Field) Sexton, born in Norfolk, June 1, 1811. He had six sisters and three brothers. In 1857 his father and mother, with all but the oldest daughter, embarked for the New World, and after a stormy voyage of forty-two days landed at Quebec, Canada, whence they came direct to Ottawa, Illinois, settling on a farm in Otter Creek township, and there the father engaged in farming until 1874, when he removed to Carroll county, Iowa, where he resided until his death, in 1890. The winter after their arrival the whole family were stricken with typhoid fever, the mother dying in January, 1858, and one boy and one girl later. Of the remainder of the family Margaret is in Norfolk, England; Sarah A. in Otter Creek, this county; Mary A. in Bluffton, Indiana; William, Eliza and Emily are in Carroll county, Iowa; and Fred resides in Everett, Washington.

James Sexton assisted his father in the farm work and remained at home until he was sixteen, when he started out in life on his own account. From that time until he was nineteen he was a farm hand, working by the month. He then rented a farm and afterward bought eighty acres of land in Otter Creek township. After his marriage, about this time, he settled on his father-in-law's farm in Otter Creek township, where he was engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1887, when he moved to Streator and engaged in the hardware business with W. H. Pilcher. Three years later he returned to

the farm, where he resided until 1897, and since that date he has been retired, residing in Streator.

Mr. Sexton married, in 1867, Miss Elizabeth Wade, a native of LaSalle county, born June 28, 1842, a daughter of Robert Wade and Elizabeth (Wilson) Wade, both natives of England. The Wade family, on first coming to America, settled in Massachusetts, and it was from Fall River, that state, that they came to Illinois, in 1840. To Mr. and Mrs. Sexton were born two children,—a son and a daughter. Roy, a graduate of Oberlin College, Ohio, and also of Northwestern University Medical College, is a practicing physician in Streator; and Nellie is the wife of Jay Arthur, of Streator. Mrs. Elizabeth Sexton, the wife and mother, died on the 26th of April, 1898.

In his political views Mr. Sexton has always been rather independent, voting for the man he believed best fitted for the office, instead of sticking closely to party lines.

WILLIAM E. PRICHARD.

The owner and manager of Highland Stock Farm, William E. Prichard, is well known throughout LaSalle and adjoining counties. He is an honored veteran of the civil war, as when eighteen years of age, in February, 1863, he enlisted in the Second Ohio Heavy Artillery and served until the close of the conflict between the north and south. He had as his commanding officers Captains Stevenson, Downey and Tompson, and his record as a brave and trusted soldier is one of which he has just reason to be proud. He is an active worker in the Republican party; is a Grand Army man, and a Mason in high standing.

Born in Licking county, Ohio, in 1845, our subject is a son of David and Ruth (Lewis) Prichard, the former a native of Wales and the latter of New York state. The father died in LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1882. During his youth William E. Prichard attended the public schools, and subsequent to his coming to this state in 1866 he was a student at Fowler's Institute at Newark for some time. Later he taught school for a few terms. Since 1871 he has made his home in Ottawa.

In April, 1871, Mr. Prichard married Miss Harriet Johnson, a daughter of Samuel and Eliza (Statler) Johnson. Jennie, the first child born to our subject and wife, died at the age of four years. Fred S. and Arthur D., twins, were born November 25, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. Prichard are members of the Baptist church, the former having had charge of the music for many years.

For thirty years W. E. Prichard has been engaged in importing, breeding and dealing in fine draft horses, particularly Percherons, of which he always keeps a large number on hand. One of the best Percherons ever

brought over, Napoleon III., came into his possession in 1871. It is said of him that he handles more high-grade horses each year than any other man in the county. His premises are commodious and convenient, his large stables being at South Ottawa and his farm two and a half miles from that point.

WILLIAM STONE CHERRY.

A representative citizen of Streator is he of whom this sketch is penned, for twenty-five years a resident and leading business man of this thriving town. In all local affairs he has taken an active part and genuine interest, patriotically upholding every effort to make this one of the most desirable places for a home or business location, and invariably using his influence on the side of the right and progress.

Though he is a native of the Emerald Isle, his birth having occurred in the town of Monahan, July 9, 1837, Mr. Cherry has little recollection of the country, as he was brought to the United States by his parents at the age of three years, and was reared under American institutions. For some time the family resided in Philadelphia, whence they went to West Virginia. Young Cherry received as good an education as his parents could afford, for, owing to the poor schools of the young state mentioned, he attended private and select schools, where tuition was required.

In 1856 Mr. Cherry went with his older brother to Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in anthracite coal mining, there laying the foundation of his knowledge that has guided him in his subsequent career.

When the civil war broke out the young man went to Philadelphia, where he offered his services in the United States Navy, and became an engineer upon one of the government ships. He had many very interesting experiences during the seven years he was in the navy, and for about three years sailed along the South American coast, being stationed off Buenos Ayres for a long time. In 1869, when he retired from the government employ, he returned to the Quaker city, where, in company with Tryon Rickert & Company, he engaged in the manufacture of white lead and paint, at Wilmington, Delaware.

In 1871 Mr. Cherry came to Streator and entered the employ of the Chicago, Wilmington and Vermillion Coal Company as mine superintendent, and later was made general mine superintendent, having charge of all the mines operated by the company; and during the long years which have since elapsed he has faithfully and efficiently performed the responsible duties which have devolved upon him. The company to whose interests he has

devoted his mature years does a very extensive business, and owns valuable mines in various states.

In June, 1872, Mr. Cherry married Miss Mary D. Godfrey, a daughter of Charles Godfrey, of Philadelphia. They have three children: Henrietta; Walter G. (who is studying law under the auspices of the firm of Reeves & Boys, of Streator); and Robert Hawthorne. The home of the family is a very pleasant one, situated upon one of the finest residence streets in the town.

Politically Mr. Cherry is a stanch Republican, and was the president of the board of city fathers for one year. On the board of education he has served as a member and as its president, besides being a trustee. The cause of education finds in him a true and tried friend, and much has been accomplished in the perfecting of our fine school system under his advisement. For a period he was a stockholder in the Streator National Bank, and from time to time he has invested in local industries and institutions, thus manifesting his patriotism in a practical manner. Fraternally he is a Mason of high standing, his membership being in Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. Moreover he is identified with the Loyal Legion of America.

BERKLEY G. BARRATT.

The popular and thoroughly efficient superintendent of the LaSalle County Asylum, Berkley Gillett Barratt, has been an incumbent of this responsible position since March 8, 1898, when he was elected on the Democratic ticket with the aid of Republicans. He is a veteran of the civil war and fought bravely for the preservation of the Union, enlisting in Company K, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in August, 1862, for three years. Assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, he was always found at his post of duty, and took part in the numerous severe campaigns in which that branch of the army was involved. He was orderly sergeant during the most of the period of his military service, being promoted second lieutenant and serving as such for the remainder of his time in the army. At the battle of Stone river he was seriously wounded in the hand, and was honorably discharged from the service with his regiment at Chicago July 3, 1865, after the close of the war.

After perusing the history of Mr. Barratt in the role of a patriot it is not a surprise to learn that he comes from loyal American ancestry, and that his maternal grandfather, John Farnham, was a soldier of the war of the Revolution. The papers relating to his discharge from the service, when

his aid was no longer needed, bear the signature of George Washington, commander of the colonial army, and were dated June, 1782. The father of our subject was Daniel Barratt, born June 3, 1797. He married Permelia, daughter of John Farnham, and to them five sons and seven daughters were born, namely: John F., Caroline, Rebecca Jane, Mary Ann, Phoebe, Caleb, Margaret, Emily, George, Berkley G., Lavinia and Elizabeth. The mother, who was born March 23, 1805, was a most worthy, noble woman, of the best type of the pioneer, courageous, strong and capable, making the best of circumstances, however gloomy and unpromising the outlook. She survived her husband many years, as he died in February, 1849, and her death did not occur until 1891. One of her sons, George, had lived in the south for some time prior to the war, and upon the outbreak of hostilities he was drafted by the rebels. However, he managed to effect an escape and returned to the north.

The birth of B. G. Barratt took place near Springfield, Clark county, Ohio, and when he was ten years of age he came to Illinois. The family at first lived near Paw Paw, Lee county, and there the lad received average educational advantages in the common schools. When he returned from fighting for his country he settled in Earlville, Illinois, and engaged in painting and contracting for a number of years. He was appointed postmaster of Earlville by President Cleveland and officiated in that capacity, and in 1882 he became a deputy sheriff of the county, acting under Sheriffs Milligan and Taylor. In 1886 Mr. Barratt made the run for the nomination for county sheriff and was defeated by only one vote, and at another time he was defeated by just one vote for circuit clerk. When a candidate for city treasurer he was elected by a majority of two votes. He has been an indefatigable worker in the Democratic party, and is recognized as a valuable factor in its success in this community. In the Masonic fraternity he has reached the Knight Templar degree, and is a member of the Ottawa Lodge and Commandery. In the Grand Army of the Republic he is identified with Seth C. Earl Post.

In 1865 Mr. Barratt wedded Miss Emily L. Jones, daughter of James Jones, formerly a respected citizen of Paw Paw and now deceased. Mrs. Barratt was born in Ohio, but grew to womanhood in the town of Paw Paw. Six children—two sons and four daughters—have been born to our subject and wife, namely: Ella, Nina and Louie, who are living. Two sons and one daughter are deceased.

A brief account of the LaSalle County Asylum, of which Mr. Barratt is now superintendent, may be of interest to the reader. Without doubt the buildings are among the most attractive and substantial structures for the occupancy of the poor and helpless wards of the county of all to be found

in the state. The buildings are modern; heated by steam and lighted with gas, and every practical device making for the comfort of the inmates of the institution has been provided. The county farm contains two hundred and ten acres of fertile land, and is situated about three and a half miles west of Ottawa. But a short distance to the south flows the Illinois river, and to the north rises a rocky bluff, at the foot of which is the Illinois & Michigan canal. Substantial barns afford shelter to about thirty head of cattle and a dozen horses, and some fifty to sixty hogs are annually raised on the place. There are cared for in the asylum from two hundred and fifty to three hundred persons each year, one-third of the number, perhaps, being insane or feeble-minded.

GEORGE M. FLICK.

George Michael Flick, retired, was born near Centerville, St. Clair county, Illinois, May, 5, 1845, and has claimed Streator as his home for more than a quarter of a century. Michael and Mary Ann (Miller) Flick, the parents, were born in Germany and came to the United States and settled in St. Clair county, this state, where the father engaged in market gardening for a year. They then moved upon a farm in this county, where they resided until death eleven years later. Both parents died during the year 1857, leaving four sons: Frank P., Charles F., John and George Michael. Three of the brothers were soldiers in the civil war.

Mr. Flick, our subject, attended the common school and remained on the farm until the death of his parents, when he was twelve years old. He also attended Oakfield University at Oakfield two years, receiving a good education. His next step was to secure a clerkship in the store of Vosburge & Snow at Earlville, this county. He remained with this firm until the cloud which had so long enveloped our land broke forth in the storm of rebellion, when he took up arms to help avert the calamity which threatened the nation. He enlisted in the Fifty-third Illinois Regiment, Company D, under Captain James E. Hudson and Colonel Seth C. Earl. Among the more important engagements in which he took part were those fought in 1863 at Jackson, Mississippi. They were ordered from Camp Douglas at Chicago to St. Louis, from there to Paducah, Kentucky, and thence to Savannah, Tennessee. They assisted in the siege of Vicksburg, the fight at Atlanta, and were with Sherman when he made his memorable march to the sea. They then returned through the Carolinas to Washington and took part in the grand review, and were sent to Louisville, Kentucky, where they were mustered out, in 1865. He has suffered all the privations which is the lot of our brave soldier boys, and had many startling experiences and narrow escapes which

furnish the topic for many an interesting story. After returning home Mr. Flick engaged in the butchering business with his brother John for some sixteen months. After that he was interested in various employments until 1872, when he came to Streator and opened a meat market, which he conducted until 1894, building up a good trade which has netted him a competency. He then disposed of his shop and purchased a small farm of twenty acres near the city, devoting it to the culture of small fruits of various kinds. He gives almost all his time and attention to this fruit farm, and is known as one of the most successful grape-producers in the county.

On the thirteenth of November, 1869, Mr. Flick was united in marriage to Miss Pauline Knoedler, who was born October 7, 1851, a daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Masner) Knoedler. Mrs. Flick's parents were born in Wittenberg, Germany, emigrated to America and were residents of Illinois at the time of the father's death. The mother is still living and makes her home with her children. These children are Charles F.; Caroline, wife of A. Hartman, of Chicago; Mrs. A. Weiss; Mrs. Sophia Deist, of Chicago; Lucy, wife of Colonel Breitting, of Chicago; and Mrs. Flick. To Mr. and Mrs. Flick have been born three children, who were reared to lives of usefulness and are now among our most popular and esteemed residents. Cora B., born June 27, 1870; William C., August 31, 1872; and Meta P., April 16, 1877. Cora B. taught in graded schools previous to her death, in her twenty-second year; William C. is a teller in the Union National Bank; and Meta P. is one of the most efficient teachers in the high school of the city. Mr. Flick is a strong Republican and a prominent member of Streator Post, No. 68, G. A. R.

MARSHALL B. MITCHELL.

Mr. Mitchell is one of the best business men of Ottawa, and one who is very highly respected for his pushing enterprise and strict integrity.

He was born in Ottawa, January 29, 1852, and is the son of Bradford and Ann (Sansberg) Mitchell. His father was a soldier in the Mexican war and served with honor and occupied a respected place in business circles at the time of his death, which occurred while Marshall was yet a child. From his early childhood to the present day Marshall has been a faithful stay to his widowed mother. He early showed his business instincts, and while yet a lad, during the civil war, reaped a harvest selling papers. He passed through a course of study at the public schools of his home city and took a course at Drew's Business College. He commenced work in Hughes' bakery and confectionery store August 1, 1867. Later, April 1, 1868, he was employed by Strawn & Powell, lumber dealers and manufacturers of sash, doors and

blinds. He proved so bright, reliable and upright that he was offered a position with Smith & Rising, extensive cigar manufacturers, June 1, 1870, as a shipping clerk, and accepted it. He again proved so efficient that he was promoted traveling salesman, and was very successful on the road. He thoroughly mastered the business, and in 1877 started in a cigar and tobacco business for himself, with a small capital, but well equipped in experience, determination and untiring industry. In the first year he commenced the manufacture of his own goods, and his famous No. 7 Nickel cigar has held the leading place in the home markets for twenty-three years. In that time Mr. Mitchell has acquired a competency and a commercial standing that is very highly recognized in business circles at home and abroad. He now owns on Madison street, the second door east of the National City Bank, the most complete, though perhaps not the largest, tobacco store and cigar factory building in northern Illinois. It is equipped especially for the business from the basement up. The store-room is very handsome and accommodates daily as extensive and choice lot of customers in this line as can be found anywhere. Mr. Mitchell also has the reputation of being a shrewd handler of real estate, and owns considerable property in that line. In politics he is a loyal Republican, but believes in good government and honest officials even at the expense of party ties.

In 1887 Mr. Mitchell married Miss Lodema Clift, a popular and well known young lady belonging to an old and respected family. He owns a handsome home on Ottawa avenue. His mother still survives, and he has two sisters,—Minnie E. and Martha A. All live in the old homestead adjoining his own.

EZRA H. BAILEY.

A quarter of a century has passed since Ezra H. Bailey came to Streator, and in the intervening years he has been actively interested in everything affecting the progress and upbuilding of the city. He has been especially prominent in financial circles, and is to-day the cashier of one of the leading banking institutions of LaSalle county,—the Union National,—which owes its present prosperity in no small degree to the executive ability, keen discernment and sound judgment of Mr. Bailey. He has always been a man of action rather than theory, and determined purpose has characterized his entire career, enabling him to overcome difficulties and work his way steadily upward.

A native of Massachusetts, he was born in the town of Milford, December 25, 1853. His father, James D. Bailey, was a descendant of the John Bailey who in 1635 left his home in Chippenham, England, and, crossing the

Atlantic to America, took up his residence in Salisbury, Massachusetts. The family was loyal to the cause of the colonists through the struggle which brought independence to the nation, Eliphalet Bailey, the great-grandfather of our subject, having faithfully served in the American army during the war of the Revolution. On the maternal side Mr. Bailey is descended from one of the oldest and most prominent families of the Bay state, his mother, Abigail (Tyler) Bailey, tracing her ancestry back to Job Tyler, who was one of the first settlers in Andover, Massachusetts, the date of his arrival there being 1640. She also was descended from Thomas Dudley, the second governor of the Massachusetts Bay colony, through his daughter Anne, who was the first American poetess and who married Simon Bradstreet, who was governor of the Massachusetts Bay colony for ten years. Fortunate is the man who has back of him an honored ancestry, and happy is he if his lines of life be cast in harmony therewith. Prominent in the affairs of the colonies the ancestors of our subject engraved their names on the pages of our early American history, and to-day, with equal loyalty and faithfulness, Ezra H. Bailey is performing the duties that fall to him in the walk of life in which he is found.

In the town of his nativity he was reared to manhood, acquiring his education in the excellent schools of the Bay state, for which Massachusetts is justly famed. When fifteen years of age he began working for his father in a boot and shoe factory, remaining in the east until January, 1874, when he came to Streator and secured employment in the office of Ralph Plumb, then largely interested in railroads and railroad construction. In November of the same year he accepted the position of bookkeeper for the Streator Coal Company, remaining with them as bookkeeper and cashier, and with their successors, the Luther & Tyler Coal & Coke Company, until 1887, when he was offered the position of cashier in the Streator National Bank. He remained with that concern until 1890, during which time he gained a comprehensive and accurate knowledge of the banking business and the methods pursued therein. In the year mentioned he associated himself with the newly organized City National Bank, as cashier, and in 1892, upon the death of George L. Richards, he was unanimously elected by the directors of the Union National Bank to the vacant cashiership, which position he accepted and still occupies. To his able and conservative management of the finances of the bank its prosperity is directly traceable in a large measure.

On the 18th of January, 1879, Mr. Bailey was united in marriage to Miss Laurett Benson, of Streator, a daughter of Sylvanus H. and Laurett (Howard) Benson, whose ancestors were among the early settlers in and near Blackstone, Massachusetts. One daughter, Edith Laurett, was born to them, January 19, 1881, and she is now a student in Lasell Seminary, in

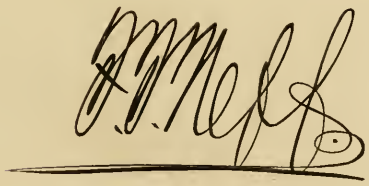
Auburndale, Massachusetts. Among her ancestors were thirteen Revolutionary soldiers. The wife and mother died July 3, 1883; and on the 23d of October, 1884, Mr. Bailey married Gertrude Canfield, of Streator, who, on the paternal side, is a direct descendant of the Canfield family, of New Milford, Connecticut, and the Ten Broecks, who were among the early Knickerbockers who settled New York, while on the maternal side she is descended from the Luthers, of Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and the Stouts, of New Jersey. Mrs. Bailey is a lady of fine mental and social attainments, being well qualified to grace any station in life to which she might be called. She is a valued member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the local chapter of the Eastern Star, the Callere Club and other societies in the city in which she resides.

Though great responsibility rests upon Mr. Bailey in a business way, he finds time, amid the multiplicity of his cares and duties, to properly discharge the obligations and duties of a patriotic citizen. He uses his franchise in favor of the nominees of the Republican party, but has never sought political preferment, and the only public office he has ever held is that of school treasurer, to which position he was elected twelve years ago, and still retains. He is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. His life history exhibits a long and virtuous career of private industry, performed with moderation and crowned with success. It is the record of a well-balanced mental and moral constitution, strongly marked by those traits of character which are of especial value in such a state of society as exists in this country. A community depends upon business activity, its welfare is due to this; and the promoters of legitimate and leading business enterprises may well be termed in its benefactors, in which relation Mr. Bailey stands to the commercial interests of Streator.

FRANK T. NEFF.

Frank Thomas Neff, cashier of the First National Bank of Marseilles, LaSalle county, is one of the representative citizens and business men of this section. Imbued with the spirit of progress and patriotism, he seeks to uphold every worthy or creditable movement for the advancement of his city and community, and has been unsparing of his time, means and influence toward this end.

Daniel Neff, the great-grandfather of the above, was a resident of Plattsburg, New York, where he died late in the eighteenth century His wife,



Silence Neff, afterward married a Mr. Cook, and removed to Franklin county, Indiana, where she died August 20, 1828.

Ebenezer Neff, the grandfather, was born at Plattsburg, New York, August 4, 1790, and December 28, 1808, he was married to Susana Buck, in New York, and ten children were born to them. Susana (Buck) Neff died July 25, 1823. He then married Margaret Douglass, February 15, 1824, in Franklin county, Indiana. To this union eight children were born. Ebenezer Neff came to Mission township, LaSalle county, Illinois, in May, 1835, at which place they resided until their death. He departed this life May 31, 1867, and his wife, Margaret, died December 9, 1871.

Daniel Buck Neff was the second child of Ebenezer and Susana (Buck) Neff, and his birth occurred in Franklin county, Indiana, May 29, 1811. In 1836 he removed to LaSalle county, Illinois, and a short time thereafter took up his residence near Newark, Kendall county, this state, where he continued to reside, carrying on a farm, until his death, January 26, 1865. The wife and mother, whose maiden name was Maria Thomas, was born in Kentucky November 22, 1814. She was married to Mr. Neff in Indiana, in the year 1832, and at the time of her death, July 21, 1880, resided in Newark, Kendall county, Illinois.

Frank T. Neff was born on the farm at the old home of the family, in Kendall county, Illinois, November 24, 1854, and was the youngest of the five children born to Daniel and Maria Neff. He obtained his elementary education in the district schools, later was a student in the public schools of Newark, Illinois, and pursued the higher branches of learning for three years at Fowler Institute. Having completed this course of mental training, he was engaged in the mercantile business for a time at Newark, Illinois, and during the years 1874 and 1875 was a student of the Chicago College of Pharmacy, afterward embarking in the drug business in Rantoul, Champaign county, Illinois, in which he was engaged until February, 1877, when he removed to Marseilles, continuing in the drug business until in October, 1883. On January 8, 1884, he was elected a director and cashier of the First National Bank of this place,—a position which he has most creditably filled for fifteen years. He is one of the largest stockholders in this flourishing institution, which ranks high among the leading banks of the county and state, and no small credit is due him for the wise and efficient management of its finances.

The exceptional ability of Mr. Neff as a careful financier has been recognized by those competent of judging his merits in this particular. He was city treasurer of Marseilles for several years, and is now serving as township treasurer of schools, and holds many other offices of trust. Politically he is a staunch Republican. In the Masonic fraternity he has attained the

Knight Templar degree, and is identified with Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, A. F. & A. M., Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., of Ottawa, and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T., of Ottawa, Illinois.

He was married to Corintha Brundage, at Marseilles, February 19, 1879, she being the daughter of the late Milton Brundage, of Marseilles. Her mother, Ann E., is now the wife of G. E. Wheeler, residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

GEORGE J. CRAM.

George J. Cram, the secretary and treasurer of the Marseilles (Illinois) Manufacturing Company, is the architect of his own fortunes, having worked his way up from an errand boy to his present honorable and responsible position. His parents moved to Canada, remaining there a few years, and while they were in Lindsay, Ontario, the subject of this biography was born, in June, 1860. The parents were George C. Cram and Agnes (Jackson) Cram. The father was born in New Hampshire in 1823, and when he had attained mature years he engaged in the packing business at Brighton, a suburb of Boston, Massachusetts. He then moved his family to Canada, and for nine years was a farmer of that country. In 1866 he moved to Bloomingdale, Du Page county, this state, and the year following to Marseilles, where he now resides. After locating here he dealt in meat and ice until his retirement from business. He married Miss Agnes Jackson, who was born in Edinboro, Scotland, and came to America in her girlhood. Her father, George Jackson, was a soldier in the British army, held a captain's commission, and fought in the battle of Waterloo. She died in 1878, leaving the following children: Elizabeth, William F., a druggist, Jennie, George J., Agnes E., Lillian V., Lewis F. and Ralph M.

After graduating at the high school of this city, George entered the employ of the Marseilles Manufacturing Company, in the humble capacity of errand boy. He was retained in this department for one year, his cheerful obedience and attention to business winning him the commendation of his employers, with the result that he was promoted to the position of shipping clerk, where he continued two years. From there he entered the office and was assistant bookkeeper another year, when he took the road in the interest of the company, and for three years was one of the best traveling men in their employ. They were in need of a head bookkeeper and tendered the place to Mr. Cram. Two years were spent in the office as cashier and bookkeeper, and he was then placed in charge of their collecting department, where, for one more year, he demonstrated his usefulness and interest in the concern, and was again rewarded by being elected to the office of secretary

and treasurer of the business, vice Oliver R. Adams, deceased, who had held the office for seventeen years.

Mr. Cram was married, in 1882, to Miss Allie Armstrong, of Marseilles, a daughter of John A. and Amy (Davis) Armstrong. They have three children: Roy V., Myrtle L. and George A. Mr. Cram is a Republican, but his life has been too busy to admit of dabbling in politics. He is one of our most prominent, public-spirited citizens, and is ever ready to advance the welfare of the city in any way in his power. He served as a member of the board of education for several years, and is secretary of the Manufacturers' Bridge Company, of this city. His industry and integrity have made him many friends, including the members of the company which he has so faithfully served and the general public; and few men can present a more meritorious record than George J. Cram.

E. P. NITSCHELM.

The subject of this narrative, elected supervisor in 1897 and still acting in that capacity, is a member of the firm of W. J. Sinon & Company, proprietors of the Sanicula Mineral Springs near Ottawa, and manufacturers of seltzer and carbonated waters.

Mr. Nitschelm is a native of France, his birth having occurred March 14, 1844. His father, J. W. Nitschelm, likewise of that country, was born October 19, 1808, and came to Ottawa with his family in 1849, and died November 17, 1899. He was a graduate of the University of Paris and for years was a very successful veterinary surgeon. Now, in his declining days, he is tenderly cared for by his daughter Helen. The good wife and mother, whose maiden name was Helen Wideman, died in August, 1896, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of twelve children, three of whom—Mary, Adeline and Frederic—are deceased, the last mentioned having come to the United States and died in Peoria, Illinois. The children who survive are E. P., of this sketch, Mrs. A. Bernard and Eliza, widow of A. Bastian.

Having mastered the details of a practical business education, Mr. Nitschelm learned the trade of manufacturing soda water and so-called "soft" drinks, and in 1884 he entered into partnership with W. J. Sinon, with whom he has since been associated, to their mutual profit. They manufacture ginger ale, birch beer, seltzer and carbonated waters, and enjoy a large and lucrative trade. The unrivaled Ottawa ginger ale and birch beer is made with water from the justly celebrated Ottawa Mineral Springs, which, according to the analysis of the noted chemist, Dr. Benjamin Silliman, of Yale

College, contains in solution over one hundred and seventy grains of minerals and gases to the gallon. A marked but agreeable flavor is thereby imparted to the water, which has been found to be a wonderful remedy for various disorders of the stomach, liver and digestive organs. In connection with the springs W. J. Sinon & Company conduct the finest mineral springs bath-house in this part of the west.

As a public official Mr. Nitschelm has always been found thoroughly trustworthy and reliable. In the Democratic party he has been aggressive and devoted, and usually makes it a point to be present at the local and county conventions. Socially he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, to the United Workmen of America and to the Select Knights.

In 1878 Mr. Nitschelm was married, in this town, to Miss Carrie Myers, a daughter of Peter Myers, a well-known citizen. Mrs. Nitschelm was born and reared in Ottawa and received her education in its excellent public schools. Three children have blessed the union of this worthy couple. The eldest born, Charles Louis, graduated at the Northwestern University, near Chicago, Illinois, April 6, 1899, and died May 3 following; Arthur is the next in order of birth; and Carrie, the only daughter, is attending the Ottawa public schools.

DONALD A. NICHOLSON.

An honored veteran of the war of the Rebellion and for a number of years a representative business man of Marseilles, Donald A. Nicholson enjoys the confidence and high regard of the community. His strong personality, his broad and progressive views and his busy and useful career have made him a power for good wherever he has dwelt.

Donald A. Nicholson is a grandson of Donald and son of the Rev. Donald Nicholson, both of whom were natives of Scotland. The mother of our subject bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Boyce, her father being Benjamin Boyce, of Canada. For several years subsequent to their marriage Donald and Elizabeth Nicholson resided in Canada, but in 1843 they removed to Will county, Illinois, where the father followed his accustomed occupation of farming. He was, moreover, a minister in the Christian church, and accomplished much in his noble mission of aiding and uplifting mankind. In 1850 he located upon a farm near Marseilles, in the township of Manlius (now known as Miller), and there he continued to reside until his death, in 1862. His widow survived him until 1886, dying at Joliet, Illinois.

Born near the town of Kingston, Canada, July 6, 1834, Donald A. Nicholson is one of three children, two of whom were daughters; and his early school days were spent in the Queen's dominions. Later he was a student in

the schools of Will county, and completed his education in the Henry (Illinois) high school. He had started out in business as a stone-mason when the civil war broke out, and upon the 20th of July, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, Thirty-ninth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was made second lieutenant. On the 14th of June, 1862, he resigned, but re-entered the service in December, 1864, as first lieutenant of Company E, One Hundred and Fifty-third Regiment of Illinois Infantry. During the two years and nine months of his army life he participated in numerous battles and lesser engagements, and it was not until September, 1865, that he was mustered out at Springfield, his rank then being that of captain. Resuming his former line of employment, Mr. Nicholson for years gave his whole attention to stone-masonry, building private dwellings and public works of various kinds, including the foundations and approaches to bridges. For the past forty-six years he has made his home in Marseilles. In 1868 he was elected to the office of police magistrate and capably discharged his duties during the four years of his incumbency. Later he was elected justice of the peace for the town of Manlius, and in 1897 he was made city attorney of Marseilles, and is still serving the public in this position. He is a stalwart Republican, and fraternally is a member of the Joseph Woodruff Post, No. 281, Grand Army of the Republic.

The marriage of Mr. Nicholson and Miss Sally A. Clark, which was solemnized in this county January 22, 1857, was blessed with six children, namely: Hiland F.; Will C.; Mary E., wife of Frank E. Smith; Miles S.; John M.; and Elizabeth, wife of T. D. Brewster. Mrs. Nicholson, who was born June 9, 1834, in Ohio, and reared in LaSalle county here, is a daughter of Adolphus and Sally (Loring) Clark, worthy and esteemed citizens of this section of the state.

EDWARD W. BACH.

Edward W. Bach, the secretary of the Standard Fire Brick Company, is a young man whose business ability is far beyond his years, and was prominently connected with the leading manufacturing interests of the city of Ottawa, Illinois, before he had attained his twenty-first year. He enjoys a wide acquaintance throughout the surrounding country, and is one of our most popular citizens.

He was born in this city in October, 1872, his parents being Andrew E. and Mary L. Bach. His father was a native of the state of New York, having been born at Manlius, Madison county, November 5, 1848, and at the age of eight years moved with his parents to this city, where he has since lived. After passing through the public-school curriculum he learned

the trade of a wagon and carriage maker, following it for years. He has long been considered one of the best accountants in the city and most reliable. He served as assessor and collector of Ottawa township, and was then chosen deputy circuit clerk, performing the duties in such an able manner that he was appointed to the office of deputy county clerk in 1894, and is now one of the most popular men in the county.

Edward Bach was educated in the schools of his native city, graduating at the high school and finishing a good business education with a course in the Ottawa Commercial College. In 1892 he accepted a position as bookkeeper for Thomas D. Catlin, at the same time holding other responsible positions. The year previous he had charge of the books of Hess, Crotty & Williams' brick factory, also the Brickton and Dayton factories' books. In November, 1895, the Standard Fire Brick Company, of Ottawa, Illinois, was organized and put in operation with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars. John W. Channel was made president and general manager, Thomas D. Catlin vice-president and treasurer, and E. W. Bach secretary. They purchased the Dayton property, consisting of a large four-story stone, and a three-story frame building, with clay lands, water power and machinery. Soon after they purchased of Hess, Crotty & Williams the latter's brick factory at Brickton, and took control in May, 1896, increasing their capital stock to fifty thousand dollars. Both plants are fully equipped with the most approved modern machinery and the output of their factories are considered among the best goods on the market. They have excellent shipping facilities, as they are happily located on the line of two railroads, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy at Dayton, and the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific at the Ottawa factory, with private sidetracks at each. This is among the most important enterprises of Ottawa, and Mr. Bach has labored earnestly to make it the success it has proved to be.

Mr. Bach is a member of Occidental Lodge, No. 40, A. F. & A. M., also of Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, Knights Templar.

SAMUEL T. STILSON.

Samuel Talbert Stilson (deceased) was born in Connecticut, July 16, 1814, and died in Earlville, Illinois, April 26, 1888. He was a son of Curtis and Abigail Stilson. When he was one year old his parents removed from Connecticut to Chautauqua county, New York, where as pioneer settlers they became farmers. Our subject received a common-school education, and when a youth virtually began life for himself. When about twenty-

one he began rafting logs down streams into the Ohio, finding a market in Cincinnati.

At the age of twenty-four he came west, direct to LaSalle county, and secured farm lands at the present town site of Earlville. He began farming, prospered and at the time of the completion of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad he had four hundred acres of land, and hereon was located Earlville. The log cabin, his first residence, was located on what is now Ottawa street in that town, near Church street. Almost on this site is now the Stilson homestead, occupied by his widow and which he erected in 1855. He kept the first hotel in Earlville and was the first merchant, his store-room, hotel and residence being all in the same business. He was also the first banker, being associated for a short time with a Mr. Halleck in operating a private bank. He sold his interest to Mr. Halleck and soon afterward the bank failed under the management of Mr. Halleck. He was one of the first grain merchants of Earlville, and for a time was associated with William R. Haight, in both the grain business and general merchandising. They erected the first elevator in Earlville, in 1857. He never followed agriculture after 1854, but raised considerable stock on his several farms he had secured, and dealt considerably in stock for several years. He was an organizer of and stockholder in the present First National Bank of Earlville, organized in 1885, and was also an organizer of the Curtis Gang Plow Company, of Peru, which was at first a large institution, but not finally a successful one, and Mr. Stilson sustained heavy losses. He was a founder of Earlville and did much for the upbuilding of the place.

He was a Republican and in early days held minor offices, but was never an office-seeker nor politician. He began life poor and amassed a handsome fortune. He was a Royal Arch Mason and during the last years of his life he was a member of the Methodist church. He married, in 1839, Miss Eleanor Wood, a native of New York, who came to Whiteside county, Illinois, in 1839, with her parents, bore him five children, and died in November, 1852. One of the above children died in infancy, and four of them grew to maturity. Davis B. Stilson was a soldier in the civil war, and from the effects of the war service died, in California, in 1864. The three living children are Orthencia, Samuel Edwin and Talbert U. The daughter, Mrs. McKinney, resides in New Mexico. Edwin is in Grant county, Nebraska. Talbert is a citizen of Earlville. January 1, 1854, Mr. Stilson was married a second time, wedding Miss Sarah T. Lukens, of Ohio, who came west with her parents in 1847 and settled at Freedom, LaSalle county. Her parents were Benjamin and Elizabeth (Worrall) Lukens, natives of Ohio. They lived and died in LaSalle county. Their father was a farmer. To the

second marriage of Mr. Stilson three daughters were born, namely: Ella, the wife of George McDonald, of Sandwich, Illinois; Marie Bella, the wife of Charles Hass, of Earlville; and one, Lizzie C., who died in infancy. Mr. Stilson was ever ready to help his fellowmen and aid good enterprises, and was highly patriotic—a leader, a friend of culture, education and the church. He gave to all, Methodist Episcopal, Presbyterian and Universalist, churches of Earlville the lots on which stand their buildings.

WILLIAM R. HAIGHT.

This gentleman, one of the foremost citizens of Earlville, and the president of the First National Bank of this place, is a pioneer of Illinois, and during the almost half century of his residence in the state has been more instrumental in advancing the interests of his community and county than most of his contemporaries. He possesses unusual public spirit and patriotism, and to his efforts Earlville is deeply indebted for many of the benefits which she enjoys.

The Haight family was founded in America several generations ago and originated in Scotland. The great-grandfather of our subject was born in the land of heather and came to this country with his parents when he was very young. His parents settled in Vermont. Benjamin, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Vermont; his life was spent in New England, and he lived to be about three-score years old. His widow survived him, living to be almost one hundred years old. They were the parents of the following children: John Haight, when twenty-two years of age, set out from his native state, walked to Pickering, Canada (West), and there located and became a prominent figure as a Quaker minister. He established an orthodox Quaker church at Pickering and other places; and his sister Lydia was also prominent as a Quaker minister, and was for a period stationed at Pern, New York. Leonard Haight, another of this same family, also became a resident of Pickering. The other children were Benjamin, the father of our subject; and Hannah Haight, who married a Mr. Bears, and resided in Addison county, Vermont. Lydia married B. Halleck and became a Quaker minister, and later in life resided at Keeseville, New York.

Benjamin Haight married Susan Rutherford. Both he and his wife were natives of Addison county, Vermont, and removed to St. Lawrence county, same state, where they settled on a farm and reared their three sons and three daughters. Of their children, William R., the subject of this review, John L., a farmer of Parishville, New York, and Mary, widow of

Amasa Grandy, of Malone, New York, are the only members of the family now living. George Haight came west in 1848, first resided in Wisconsin, and later in Missouri, where he died. He was a farmer by occupation. Of these children, Emily died in infancy, and Lydia died at the age of thirty-two years.

Benjamin Haight, the father, was associated with the Society of Friends, and died in New York when he was in his seventy-eighth year; and his wife, who adhered to the Methodist faith, lived to attain her ninetieth year. Her father, Daniel Rutherford, of Vermont, and of English descent, was a farmer, and served in the Revolutionary war. He died when but little past the prime of life, and left four children.

The birth of William R. Haight took place in Monkton, Addison county, Vermont, September 12, 1822. After completing his district-school education he was a student at the St. Lawrence Academy for a period, after which he successfully taught for ten terms in St. Lawrence county, New York. He next clerked in a store at Parishville, same state, for four years. In 1850 he came to Illinois, taking up his residence in Elgin. He soon obtained employment in the engineers' corps of what was then known as the Chicago & Galena Union Railroad Company. The road then ran to Freeport, where it connected with the Illinois Central line, then in course of construction. After remaining with that corporation for two years, Mr. Haight removed to Aurora and took charge of the building of a section of road on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, between Mendota and Leland. When this work had been successfully completed he served as a civil engineer for the Bureau Valley Railroad for a period.

In the spring of 1855 he came to Earlville and here engaged in the grain business, in partnership with Samuel T. Stilson. They erected the first grain elevator of Earlville, completing its erection in 1857. They also conducted a general merchandise store. Mr. Haight purchased Mr. Stilson's interest in the store and managed that for one year, selling it out in 1857. He retained his interest in the grain business till 1861, and then followed merchandising again for two years. From 1863 to 1866 he was engaged in looking after farm interests, still residing in Earlville, but in 1866, as an organizer of the Exchange Bank, of Earlville, he first engaged in banking. He remained in charge of this bank for five years and then disposed of his interest in it. In 1874 he removed to Chicago, where he resided one year. Having traded for farm lands in Monroe county, Missouri, he removed to that state and followed agricultural pursuits and dealt in cattle up to 1879, when he returned to Earlville. For several years thereafter his time was taken up in looking after various investments, but upon the organization of the First National Bank of Earlville, in March of 1885,

Mr. Haight became its president, a position he has since held, his career as a banker marking him as a successful financier.

In early manhood Mr. Haight joined the I. O. O. F. in St. Lawrence county, New York. He also belongs to Meridian Lodge, No. 183, A. F. & A. M., and Aurora Chapter, R. A. M. Until the political campaign of 1896 he affiliated with the Democratic party, but at that time, being in hearty sympathy with the Republican attitude on the money question, he voted for McKinley. He has never sought nor desired public office, but has been town supervisor twice, and served as justice of the peace one term, in order to satisfy the wishes of his friends.

On the 7th of July, 1853, Mr. Haight married Ruth P. Norton, a daughter of William G. and Elmira (Parker) Norton. She departed this life December 1, 1870, aged thirty-six years. Of the four children born to them the youngest, Sybil N., died at the age of ten months. George H. is an Ottawa lawyer, and William D. is a physician located at Johnstown, Pennsylvania. The former married Mary Vosburgh and has four children—David M., Ruth, Earl and Harold. William D. married Ida Lacy, and all of their children, three in number, have passed away. Etta C. Haight became the wife of Dr. John C. Sheridan, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and their eldest child, Eula, is Mrs. Henry Geer, of Pueblo, Colorado. The younger ones are Jessie M., John C., Jr., and William R.

The second marriage of our subject took place August 27, 1876, when Mrs. Ruth P. Whaley, widow of J. M. Whaley, became his wife. Mrs. Haight had five children by her former marriage, but three of the number are deceased: Mrs. Nellie Lowe, of Two Harbors, Minnesota, and Charles E. Whaley, of Chelan, Washington, are the only survivors. The former has two daughters—DeEtte and Ruth, and the two children of Charles E. are Myrtle and Mildred. Mrs. Haight's parents were Vinton and Susan (Parker) Streator, both natives of Maine and of English descent. In tracing the history of her ancestors we ascertain that Jonathan Streator was stationed at Fort Edwards, New York, during the French and Indian war and participated in the Revolution, being at the battle of Bunker Hill. Among his children was Daniel Streator, who was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1772. He married Rhoda Stearns, and to them were born Vinton, Johnson and Stebbins Streator. He removed from Massachusetts to Leeds, Maine, where the above named sons were born, Vinton being born in 1794. Vinton Streator married Susan Parker, and their children were John Vinton, Josiah Parker, Susan Johnson, Rhoda Johnson, Ruth Parker, Philena Mary, Cornelia Ann, Elias Hutchins and Lorenzo Newell. The family removed to Lowell, Massachusetts, from Maine; from Lowell they started west, October 19, 1850, and arrived at Ottawa, Illinois, November 1, same year. Those

who came at that time were the father and mother and Josiah, Ruth, Philena, Elias and Newell. John had preceded them to Ottawa. The father was a hero of the war of 1812, and received from the government in consequence thereof a warrant for land in LaSalle county, Illinois. In 1852 Mrs. Haight's parents removed to Hudson, Wisconsin, where they both died, her father in 1866 and her mother in 1883. The maternal great-grandfather of Mrs. Haight was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Haight is a member of the Presbyterian church, and, with her husband, is actively interested in the causes of church, education and whatever tends to the good of humanity.

WILLIAM THOMAS.

To be satisfactory, success in life must have been won worthily and with due regard for the rights of the public. Such an honest and well merited success is that which has crowned the worthy efforts of William Thomas, one of the leading business men of Ottawa, who for more than forty years has been closely and prominently connected with the development and prosperity of Illinois.

William Thomas, president of the Thomas Electric Light and Power Company, Ottawa, Illinois, was born February 20, 1821, at Bristol, Ontario county, New York, a son of Silas and Bethia (Crooker) Thomas. His father, who was of Welsh descent, was born in Maine and served his country as a soldier in the war of 1812-14. His mother was a daughter of Noah Crooker, who did gallant service in the Revolutionary war in defence of American liberty. Mr. Thomas died in 1852, aged seventy-two years, and Mrs. Thomas died in 1881. They were zealous and helpful members of the Christian church. Of their ten children nine grew to manhood and womanhood: Deborah, Silas P., Frederick F., Mary Ann, Noah C., William, Minerva, Maria and Bethia. William Thomas received a common-school education, and at the age of fifteen removed with his parents to Grass Lake, Michigan, and, after aiding them to clear up a farm, returned to New York, where he learned the carpenter and joiner's trade, and worked at it until 1854, when he came to Will county, but again returned to New York. In 1857 he came west once more, and located at Lockport, where he was employed on the Illinois and Michigan canal as a bridge builder, but the same year he was made overseer of the repair shop at Lockport. In 1862 he was advanced to the position of assistant superintendent of the canal, with headquarters at Ottawa, since which time he has been largely identified with that city. He was also in charge of the construction of the canal in Camden, Illinois, in 1871, and of several other important engineering works. December 1, 1871, he was pro-

moted to the position of general superintendent of the canal, with his office at Lockport, and retained the position until July, 1885. At that date he resigned in order to devote his time to the interests of the Thomas Electric Light and Power Company, of which he was the founder. Since that time he has devoted his active energies to assisting in the work of the company. This is an incorporated concern, with a capital of fifteen thousand dollars, which operates the dynamos that furnish light to the city.

February 22, 1844, Mr. Thomas was married, at Bristol, Ontario county, New York, to Miss Phoebe D. Wilder, a daughter of John Wilder. Mrs. Thomas died in Ottawa in 1889, leaving a daughter, who is the wife of Colonel Douglas Hapeman, the secretary and treasurer of the Thomas Electric Light & Power Company. The only other child of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas died in infancy. Mrs. Thomas was a woman of fine abilities and great benevolence, and was an active and zealous worker in the Congregational church; and in its Sunday-school for many years she taught an ever-changing class of young boys, to many of the members of which she was a spiritual mother. Dr. Lempke, now one of the prominent physicians of Chicago, was one of the many upon whom she exerted powerful influence for good. Her sunny disposition and her many acts of kindness made her a favorite with all. Mr. Thomas has been a member of the Congregational church for more than thirty years, helpfully devoted to all its interests. Politically he is a Republican. He became known early in life as an abolitionist, and cast his first presidential vote in 1844, for James G. Birney. In 1856 he voted for John C. Fremont and in 1860 for Abraham Lincoln, and since then he has been actively identified with progressive Republican work. Mr. Thomas is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being a Knight Templar. He is also a member of the Society of Sons of the Revolution.

The life of William Thomas has been a busy one from boyhood. He was scarcely sixteen when he began his business career, and now, at the age of seventy-eight, he is still able and active, and is honored as one who has done well for himself and the community in which he has lived and upon whom the reward of business success has most deservedly fallen.

LARS HAYER.

As a biography of the representative men of LaSalle county, Illinois, this book would be decidedly incomplete without more than a passing notice of the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch. He has been one of the prominent men of Miller township for years, and is known throughout the entire county for the efficiency with which he has performed

his duties as a public officer. He was born in the township in which he now resides, near Danway, on March 15, 1846, and is a son of Oliver and Julia (Elefson) Hayer.

Oliver Hayer was born in Tillimarken, Norway, March 22, 1820, and there grew to manhood, learning the trade of shoemaker in that country. He sailed for the United States when he was twenty-two years of age and first located in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he lived two years, coming from there to this county in 1844. He purchased a farm in section 16, and remained upon it for eight years, finally disposing of it to advantage and buying two hundred acres on an adjoining section. He was a good farmer and derived a neat income from the product of his farm. He was a man of deeply religious nature and a member of the church of the Latter Day Saints. He was married in the township of Rutland, this county, on April 18, 1845, to Miss Julia Elefson, who was born in Norway April 1, 1821, and is now residing on the homestead. She is a bright, cheerful lady, whose declining years are spent in scattering sunshine by kind deeds and words to those about her. Five sons and three daughters were born to this union, all of whom are living, namely: Lars, who is the eldest and the subject of this sketch; Christian, a resident of Eagle Grove, Wright county, Iowa; Ann Hanson, of this township; Oliver, a resident of Lamoni, Decatur county, Iowa, as is Eli, the brother next in age; Matilda, wife of C. Wickwire, of Kentland, Newton county, Indiana; Mrs. Caroline Lysinger, of Wright county, Iowa; and Charles, a resident of Seneca, this state. Their father reached the age of sixty-seven years when the angel of death called him to his reward, October 31, 1886.

Lars Hayer is a product of LaSalle county who reflects credit upon it by his honorable life and upright dealings. His education was obtained in the public schools and his early years spent upon his father's farm, where he assisted in the work. He has one of the most attractive homes in the county, with pleasant, commodious buildings, beautiful and refreshing shade-trees, and well cultivated fields. This land was purchased by him in 1873, and has well repaid the care and labor expended in its improvement.

On March 22, 1878, Mr. Hayer and Miss Fena Johnson were made man and wife. Mrs. Hayer is a native of Norwegian land, where she was educated and received the teaching that has made her peculiarly adapted to become the helpmeet of an energetic, frugal farmer like Mr. Hayer. She arrived in this country in July, 1872, first living in Minnesota, and in January, 1876, came to LaSalle county. Her father, Thomas Johnson, died October 10, 1887; her mother is a resident of the United States, making her home with her children in this vicinity. Six children have blessed the union of this worthy couple, to whom they are an inspiration and aid. They are Dollie J.,

born November 30, 1878; Orin T., April 6, 1882; Lottie, September 20, 1885; Cora, August 8, 1888; Maggie, October 18, 1890; and Francis, July 28, 1893.

Probably no man in the township has taken a greater interest and more prominent part in the work of the Republican party than has our subject. He has served in many offices, was assessor for three years, township collector for a time, and in 1894 was elected township supervisor, an office in which he is still retained. His public life has been above reproach and has given the most perfect satisfaction to his constituents, while his jovial, kindly disposition makes him a favorite with all who meet him and his life well worthy of emulation.

CAPTAIN ANGUS ROSS MERCER.

Ottawa is rapidly working up to a place in the front ranks of the leading industrial centers of the state of Illinois. Many new plants and manufacturing concerns have been located here during the past decade, as excellent shipping facilities are afforded and numerous advantages present themselves to the attention of the commercial world. Among the new enterprises destined to bring the town into yet greater prominence than ever before was the establishment of the United States Silica Company's plant in the southern part of Ottawa. Four years have passed and the business has grown remarkably, among the customers of the concern being many of the best flint houses and glass-makers of this country. The buildings, machinery and lands of the company are valued at upward of sixty thousand dollars, and the capacity of the works is placed at twenty-five to thirty car-loads per day. The fifty acres of land owned by the company is underlaid with St. Peter's sandstone, a vast mass of silicious material, the strata varying in thickness from one hundred and seventy to four hundred feet. No finer material for the manufacture of glass exists, the product possessing the necessary qualities of clearness and strength.

Captain Angus Ross Mercer, the superintendent of the United States Silica Company's works in south Ottawa, is a gentleman of exceptional business ability, and to his genius and energy can be traced much of the success of the enterprise with which he is connected. He was born in Ontario, Canada, April 11, 1858, of Scotch ancestry; and many of the family were seafaring men. His father, Captain Alexander Mercer, was for half a century a captain of vessels which sailed on the great lakes, and the latter's father, Robert Mercer, was for a like period on the "high seas." Our subject followed the example of his seniors, and when a mere lad commenced sailing on the great lakes, rising from one position to another until he was made the

first officer and captain, and finally he reached the goal of his youthful desires and was the owner of a ship. In 1895 he assumed the superintendency of the silica company's plant, in response to the urgent wishes of its officials, and has proved the "right man in the right place."

Captain Alexander Mercer married Miss Ellen Springstein, a native of Canada, and to that worthy couple but two children, sons, were born, namely: Angus R. and W. F. The latter is now a resident of Michigan.

In his political standing Captain Angus R. Mercer is a Republican, and fraternally he is a Mason. His marriage was celebrated June 26, 1881, the lady of his choice being Miss Pauline Felz. Mrs. Mercer is a daughter of Valentine Felz, of Grand Haven, Michigan. To the union of the Captain and wife three children have been born, namely: May R., Valentine Alexander and Hugh.

JAMES T. WALSH.

In the spring of 1898 James T. Walsh was elected to the office of alderman, representing the fifth ward in the city council of Ottawa, county-seat of LaSalle county. In the ranks of the Democratic party in this section he is regarded as an influential man, one of the foremost in local campaigns.

Like many of the well known citizens of Ottawa, James T. Walsh is a native of the Emerald Isle, whose beauties are renowned in song and story. He reached the half-century mark on the 8th of March, 1899. He is one of the nine children of Thomas and Catherine Walsh, the others being as follows: William, Jerry, Cornelius, John, Thomas, Patrick, Hanora and Mary. The four sons first mentioned are residents of Chicago, Illinois. Thomas is the collector of Wallace township, LaSalle county. Patrick, Hannah and Mary are still living in Ireland. Though the parents were not wealthy nor influential, they taught their children the lessons of industry and good citizenship, and were themselves respected in the community in which they dwelt.

When twenty years of age, in 1869, James Walsh crossed the Atlantic ocean, with the intention of making a permanent home in the New World. After spending some time in New York he came to LaSalle county, and at present he is the owner of a well stocked grocery, finely located and commanding an extensive trade. By strict attention to the needs of his customers and by uniformly treating them with courtesy and fairness he has built up a profitable business, and stands well in the estimation of all who have had dealings with him. A few years ago it was his esteemed privilege to make a visit to the land of his birth, where he renewed the friendships of "auld lang syne," and spent some time in journeying to places with which he was famil-

iar. Fraternally Mr. Walsh is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

In Syracuse, New York, the marriage of our subject and Miss Catherine Walsh, an old schoolmate, was solemnized in 1873. Four children have been born to this worthy couple, three sons and a daughter, namely: Thomas P., William, Michael and Catherine.

LEWIS LONG.

Since 1825, the year of his birth, the subject of this sketch has been a resident of LaSalle county, and since 1860 has maintained his home on his present farm, on section 28, Miller township. His long identification with the county and the prominent position he occupies as one of its leading farmers make his history of more than passing interest in the present work.

The Long family from which Lewis Long springs is of German origin. His grandfather, Christopher Long, Sr., was born in Germany and came to this country when a child, settling in New York. His son Christopher, the father of Lewis, was born in Fulton county, New York, and in 1818 came from the Empire state to Illinois, that being the year Illinois attained the dignity of statehood. In Pike county, this state, he was married, March 18, 1824, to Miss Sallie Booth, a native of Connecticut and a daughter of A. Booth. The year following their marriage they moved to LaSalle county, first settling at South Ottawa and in 1831 moving to a place near Marseilles. During the Black Hawk war he helped to build the fort in which the settlers sought refuge from the Indians. Mrs. Long died in 1832, leaving three children: Catherine, now the wife of Elias Trumbow, of Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois; Elizabeth, deceased wife of Jonathan Stadden; and Lewis, the subject of this sketch. For his second wife Christopher Long married Mrs. Alvard, and she bore him four children, only one of whom is now living—William H. Long, a resident of Plano, Illinois. In 1849 the father died, on his farm, at the age of fifty years. His political affiliations were with the Whig party. He took an intelligent interest in public affairs, and was one of the highly respected citizens of his community.

During Lewis Long's boyhood educational advantages in LaSalle county were limited. He attended the rural schools, such as they were, during the winter months, often having to walk several miles to and from school. Reared on his father's farm, he early became familiar with all kinds of farm work, and learned that industry and careful management were essential to success; after years have shown that his early training was not

Lewis Long

Emily E. Long

in vain. He settled on his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Miller township, in 1860. Besides this he owns six hundred and forty acres of land in Miller township, one hundred and six acres in Brookfield township, one hundred and sixty acres in Rutland township, and his father's old farm of one hundred and sixty acres—comprising a total of one thousand one hundred acres, all in LaSalle county.

Mr. Long was married December 14, 1852, to Miss Emily E. Barber, who was born November 9, 1832, a native of New York, and the daughter of Zina and Sarah (Potter) Barber. Mrs. Barber died when Mrs. Long was four years old, leaving three children—Charles M., now deceased; Mrs. Long; and Sarah, wife of M. Morgan, of Crawford county, Iowa. Mr. Barber was subsequently married to Huldah Deans, and by her had eight children, among them being: Alden, who died in Libby prison during the civil war; Cicero, who was killed in battle during the civil war; John, a veteran of the same war; Caroline Massy; and Ruth Edison. Mr. Barber died in Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1857. By trade he was a millwright, politically was a Whig, and religiously a Methodist. Mr. and Mrs. Long have had eight children and their grandchildren now number ten. Their first-born, Sarah H., died in infancy. Of the seven living, the following record is made. Eugene C. is a resident of Marseilles, Illinois; Emma F., wife of Gaylord J. States, of Miller township, is the mother of two children, Maud and Lena; Charles W., who married Mae Clark and is now living in Rutland township, has two children, Harry and Esther; Ruth Inez, wife of George Finkle, residing on a farm near Marseilles, has three children, Alta, Blanche and Ray; Bertha A., wife of F. Spencer, of Rutland township, has one child, Grace; Lewis Walter, who married Miss Cora B. Brumback, has two children, Walter Floyd and Elsie L.; and Arthur F., who married Miss Sarah Etta Grove, lives on a part of the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Long also reared from childhood Mrs. William H. States of Greene county, Iowa.

While he has never aspired to official honors Mr. Long has always taken a commendable interest in public affairs and party matters, and casts his vote with the Republicans. He is a member of the Universalist church.

ELIAS HAYER.

Elias Hayer, the assessor of Miller township and for more than a quarter of a century a resident in the near vicinity of Stavanger, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born in Lee county, Iowa, in 1848, and is the son of Ole L. and Martha (Buland) Hayer. The father was a native of Norway, where he grew

to man's estate, and soon after reaching his majority he came to America. His first stopping place was in Wisconsin, in 1842, and in 1844 he went to Iowa, where he met and married Miss Martha Buland. In 1851 he came to LaSalle county, Illinois, where the remainder of his life was passed. He was seventy-four years old at the time of his death, and his wife was in her sixty-eighth year. She was a member of the church of the Latter Day Saints. They had five children: Elias; Samuel, who resides on the old homestead; Sarah Ann and Andrew, deceased; and Isabella, the wife of John Midgorden, of this township.

Elias Hayer received a good common-school education, and early learned habits of industry, assisting in the labors incident to farm life. He was married at the age of twenty-three years, the lady of his youthful devotion being Miss Annie Teal, a native of this township and a daughter of the late Edward Teal, one of the earliest settlers of this county. Edward Teal married Miss Susan Piester, a native of Germany, and had a family of five children, namely: Harriet, wife of T. Hougas, of this township; Mary Jane, wife of J. Hougas, of Iowa; Nathan; Morgan; and Annie, wife of our subject. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hayer has been blessed by the birth of eight children, of whom Millie, the eldest, is the wife of Thomas J. Thorson, of Grundy county, this state; Silas, the second child and eldest son, is now in his twenty-fifth year, and is living at home; Laura; Frederick, Bessie, Nellie and Allen E. are all residing at home; and next to the youngest, Olan, died at the tender age of six years. Mr. Hayer and family are zealous members of the church of the Latter Day Saints. He has resided on his present homestead for over twenty-nine years, and has improved it until it is one of the ideal homes for which Illinois is noted. The farm comprises one hundred and twenty acres of the most fertile land, with large barns and a fine, modern residence, which was erected in 1896. He is a Republican, and as assessor of the township has won more than passing commendation for the fair and impartial manner in which he discharged his duties. Straightforward and honorable in his life, he has the respect of every one, and stands as one of the representative men of LaSalle county.

J. M. FERRELL.

J. M. Ferrell, station agent at Marseilles, Illinois, was born in Bronson, Michigan, May 29, 1862, the son of Abel and Mary (Free) Ferrell. His youthful days were spent in obtaining a common-school education, and when a boy he removed with his parents from Michigan to Indiana. When he started out in life for himself, which was at an early age, it was in railroad

business,—first with the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad in 1879. In the fall of the same year he entered the employ of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, going to Mansfield, Ohio, and later he was located at Walkerton, Indiana. From the latter place he was transferred to the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad in 1882, at Cameron, Missouri, and in 1892 to Marseilles, his present location, where he has spent the past eight years, and where he is well known as the popular and efficient station agent of his road.

Mr. Ferrell was married at Unionville, Iowa, to Miss Belle Peterson, of that place.

Politically he is a Democrat; fraternally a Mason. He identified himself with the Masonic order in 1887, served three years as worshipful master of his lodge, and is deeply interested in Masonry. He is a member of Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M.; Shabbona Chapter, No. 61, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.

GEORGE W. HOLMES.

Success in any line of business comes only as the direct result of wisdom, experience and energy well applied, and thus it is seen in the case of George W. Holmes, whose present prosperity is directly traceable to the years of indefatigable effort he has expended in the past in the science of hotel-keeping.

The family whence our subject springs is of German extraction, his ancestors being early settlers in Pennsylvania. His father, John Holmes, was born in that state in 1817, and the mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Weaver, was likewise a native of the Keystone state. She died several years ago, in Indiana, and the father is now a resident of Ottawa. Of their nine children who lived to maturity four sons, Perry, Henry, John and Jeremiah, were Union soldiers in the civil war.

George W. Holmes was born near the town of Wooster, Ohio, in 1837. His father being a hotel-keeper, it was not strange that the lad decided to follow in the same line of business, and from his early years he received instruction which fitted him for the calling. Going to St. Joseph, Michigan, in 1854, he there engaged in carpenter work. Coming to Ottawa in 1876, he assumed the management of the Holmes Hotel, as it has since been known, and has won the favor and patronage of the traveling and local public to a gratifying extent. Making no pretensions to the great elegance and luxuries of the high-priced hotels of the metropolis, the Holmes Hotel takes its place upon its own merits, and is noted for its homelikeness, its comforts and excellent bill of fare, all furnished at moderate prices.

Mr. Holmes, who is deservedly popular with his guests and with the citizens of Ottawa in general, is a man of splendid physique, as he is six feet and one inch in height, and weighs two hundred and fifteen pounds, thus dwarfing men of ordinary size by comparison. His time is too thoroughly occupied for outside interests, but he uses his franchise in favor of the Democratic party and its nominees.

On October 4, 1859, the marriage of Mr. Holmes and Miss Elizabeth Bennage, a native of Pennsylvania, and daughter of Jacob Bennage, was celebrated in St. Joseph county, Michigan. Three daughters were born to our subject and his estimable wife, but Harriet A. died at the age of six years; Emma E. married M. L. Sample, of Chicago; Georgia Anna is the wife of J. Zeller, of Ottawa, Illinois.

CHRISTIAN HAEBERLE.

Christian Haeberle is one of the well and favorably known citizens of Ottawa, LaSalle county, of which town he is a native, his birth having occurred here February 24, 1861. He is a son of Christian Haeberle, Sr., who was born in Wittenberg, Germany, and came to the United States at an early day. For many years he was numbered among the substantial business men of Ottawa, his sterling qualities winning the respect of all who were in any manner associated with him. He married Miss Paulina Heffemer, and to their union two sons and a daughter were born, namely: John, now a resident of Broken Bow, Nebraska; Christian, Jr.; and Carrie, who is the wife of J. Formhalls, of this place. The husband and father, who was an esteemed member of the Odd Fellows society, died at the age of forty-nine years, and was buried with the rites of that honored order.

Christian Haeberle, Jr., was reared in Ottawa, and received his education in the public schools of the place. In 1893 he became the proprietor and assumed the management of the Washington Hotel, at No. 219 Main street, and has met with gratifying success in his efforts. The hotel, which is one of the most popular in the county, was established by the father of our subject, who was experienced in this line of business, and safely launched the new undertaking, always a doubtful experiment in any town or city. Long since it had won its way into the favor of the public, and its high standard has been maintained until the present time. The building is spacious, light and well ventilated, every arrangement being made for the comfort and convenience of guests. An air of neatness and homelikeness pervades the place, and the personal attention of the proprietor is constantly given to the supervision of every detail.

In his political attitude Mr. Haeberle is quite independent, not being affiliated with any party, and reserving the right of unrestrained judgment as to the nominee or principle which shall receive the support of his ballot. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He finds an able and willing assistant in the management of his hotel in the person of his wife, a lady of good education and general attainments. She was formerly Miss Katherine Flagaus, and was married to Mr. Haeberle in 1893. A native of Ottawa, she has spent her entire life here, and numbers many friends in the community. The only child of our subject and wife is a little daughter, Ola, who is a great favorite with the guests of the hotel.

ANDREW HAMILTON.

One of the progressive, prosperous and substantial business men of Ottawa, LaSalle county, Illinois, is Andrew Hamilton, who was born November 15, 1837, in Fairfield, Connecticut. His parents, James and Isabella (Gilchrist) Hamilton, were natives of Scotland, where they were married, moving thence to the United States in 1835 and settling at Fairfield, remaining there a few years and then locating near Rockland Lake, Rockland county, New York, where they resided until their death. The father died in 1890, and the mother in October, 1897. There were two boys and two girls in the family,—Robert, Andrew, Margaret and Sarah. Robert lives in Spring Valley, New York; Margaret in Monsey, New York; and Sarah in Brooklyn, New York.

Andrew Hamilton received his primary education in the district schools of Rockland county, supplementing this with two years in the schools of New York city. He continued to assist his father on the farm until he was nineteen years of age. In 1856 he came to LaSalle county and secured employment with M. F. Fairfield. After this he clerked in different stores in Ottawa until 1868, when he embarked in the mercantile business for himself, opening a flour, feed, salt and cement store. He buys his flour and feed by car-load lots and sells at wholesale and retail, and also handles foreign and domestic cement. He is nicely situated at 222 West Main street, and has worked up a lucrative trade, his courteous and accommodating treatment meeting with a quick response from his customers.

Mr. Hamilton was married April 12, 1861, to Miss Eliza A. Richards, a native of Rockland Lake, New York. To them one daughter was born, Eliza, wife of J. D. Vincent, of Ottawa. Mrs. Hamilton died February 22, 1867, and in 1876 Mr. Hamilton chose as the head of his household Miss Serena Bailey, daughter of William Bailey, a resident of this city. They have

a beautiful home, at the corner of Paul and Washington streets, in which they entertain their friends in the most hospitable manner. They are attendants of the Congregational church, and are among the most influential citizens of Ottawa.

REV. THOMAS S. KEATING.

Father Keating, pastor of the St. Columba's Catholic church, is one of the most popular and prominent figures in Ottawa. Much of his life has been spent in our midst, and his interest in the welfare of our city, together with his grand, lofty character and the excellent judgment displayed in connection with the noble institutions over which he has almost complete jurisdiction, has won for him the commendation and admiration of all classes, irrespective of their religious views. He was born December 21, 1846, and attended the public schools of Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, until ten years of age. The following three years were spent as a student in the Columbus school of this city, after which he entered St. Mary's College, in Perry county, Missouri, from which he graduated four years later. Having fully decided upon consecrating his life to the service of the church, he entered the University of St. Mary's of the Lake, at Chicago, where he graduated in 1865. From Rev. Dr. McMullen's Clerical Seminary, which he attended for two years, he entered Mount St. Mary's College, at Emmettsburg, Maryland, the oldest seminary in the United States. Three years later he graduated from this institution and went to Chicago. It was in compliance with a wish of Dean Terry, a near relative, that he was ordained a priest in the old St. Columba church, at Ottawa, on August 19, 1870, by Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley, bishop of Chicago. Since then his life has been crowded with deeds of love and usefulness, and many amongst whom he has labored bear loving testimony to the good accomplished by him in rescuing them from human weakness. He was first assigned as assistant to the bishop at Chicago, where he remained until after the great fire, when he was permitted to be of invaluable aid to many of the unfortunate sufferers of the scourged district. Then he assisted Dean Terry in his work here until August, 1873, when he was given charge of St. Rosa's church, at Wilmington, Illinois, and during his one year at this point organized a branch church at Braidwood, which had previously been without church or pastor. St. Mary's church, at El Paso, Woodford county, was his next charge, and there he remained six years, establishing mission schools in different towns in his parish, paying off the church debt and erecting a fine building for a parochial school. During the following eight years he was pastor of Champaign and Rantoul mission, building a large nunnery for the Sisters of Notre Dame, of Milwaukee, erecting a church

edifice at Penfield, and collecting twelve thousand dollars for the erection of another church, the contract for which was let in February, 1888, a few months before he left the parish. In April of that year he took charge of the parish here, and the results achieved by him seem almost incredible.

St. Columba's, of which Dean Keating is pastor, is one of the finest church edifices in Ottawa, and was erected at a cost of fifty-two thousand dollars. A fine, mellow-toned pipe organ was built for this church and is pronounced by the best musicians to be an instrument wonderful in its depth of volume and perfection of tone. Father Keating has endeared himself to the people of the parish, and gained the esteem of the entire community by his wisdom and by the noble qualities which are his characteristics. In 1888 he was appointed dean of the diocese of Peoria, Illinois, and the work accomplished by him since then is a record in which he may feel a pardonable pride: The greater part of the church debt has been lifted; St. Xavier's Academy, costing some twenty-two thousand dollars, completed; the boys' school established and new building erected; the new deanery completed, at a cost of fourteen thousand dollars; and the cemetery enlarged and improved. These are some of the visible results of his work, but of the good accomplished by him as the wise adviser and spiritual director of his people who shall speak? His influence has been far-reaching and lasting, causing him to be regarded with affectionate reverence. On August 19, 1895, Dean Keating celebrated his silver jubilee of twenty-five years in the service of the church. He is now an irremovable pastor and one of the best known and respected citizens of LaSalle county.

DAVID NITTER.

David Nitter, postmaster of the village of Norway, LaSalle county, Illinois, and the prosperous proprietor of a general store at this place, dates his birth in Chicago, June 8, 1861.

Mr. Nitter is a son of William and Thea (Schlanbusch) Nitter, both natives of Norway, who came to this country late in the '50s, where they were shortly afterward married. The first few years of their married life was passed in Chicago, whence, about 1864, they came to Norway, LaSalle county, where he opened a general store. His death occurred here shortly after he was established in business. Mrs. Nitter subsequently became the wife of John Quam, a farmer, who died about eighteen years ago. After his death she moved to Iowa, where she still lives. By her first husband she had two children, David and a daughter, the latter dying in childhood. By her second husband she had seven children.

David Nitter was reared principally on a farm, his stepfather being a

farmer, and received a fair education in the common schools of the district and normal school at Morris, Illinois, in the year 1881. He remained with his mother until the age of sixteen years, when he left home and began the battle of life for himself, starting out as a clerk. He clerked in Norway, Serena and Sheridan, and after a few years thus spent he went to Iowa, where he was engaged in farming two years. Returning to LaSalle county at the end of that time, he resumed clerking, spent one year at Sheridan and two years in Seneca, and in the spring of 1888 engaged in business for himself at Norway, where he has since continued successfully. His beginning was a restaurant. To it he from time to time added other lines, until he now has a complete general store, well stocked and up-to-date for an establishment of its kind. In 1889 Mr. Nitter was appointed the postmaster of Norway, which office he has filled acceptably for the past ten years. He is a Republican.

Mr. Nitter was married in 1882 to Miss Maria Marcuson, a native of Norway, and they are the parents of four children.

MORTON E. DOWNING.

The subject of this sketch, Morton E. Downing, is the superintendent of one of the most important industries of LaSalle county—the mining and shipping of sand for glass manufacture.

Mr. Downing was born in Bartholomew county, Indiana, January 12, 1868, and is of Scotch origin. The family, however, have long been identified with America, having settled in Ohio at the time of their emigration to this country. Don E. Downing, the father of Morton E., is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, born some sixty-six years ago, and is now a resident of Marshall county, Indiana, working at the carpenter's trade at Bourbon, that state. He and his wife, whose maiden name was Jane Cassell, are the parents of the following named children: Mary, who married Joseph Harris, resides in Bartholomew county, Indiana; Emma, wife of Thomas Parrish, resides in Durand, Missouri; Tamar is the wife of Harry Compton, of Wedron, Illinois; Morton E., the subject of this sketch; Josie, wife of Tyde Deardorf, of Bourbon, Indiana; and Julia, wife of Philip Baugher, also of Bourbon.

Morton E. Downing, as he grew up, spent some time working at the carpenter's trade, under his father's instructions, and some time working in a machine shop; but on leaving his parental home at the age of twenty-one he took a position as stationary engineer at Millington, Illinois. From that place he went to Aurora, this state, where he filled a similar position in the Aurora Chemical Works, and from there came to his present location at

Wedron. Here he had charge of the engine at the works of the Wedron White Sand Company until 1896, when he was made foreman, and afterward superintendent, the position he now holds. His continuance in the service of this company and his promotion by them is ample evidence of his ability and faithfulness.

Mr. Downing was married in McHenry county, Illinois, in the town of Woodstock, June 21, 1897, to Miss Effie Worden. They have an only child, Nora, born September, 1898.

PHILIP C. WATTS.

Prominent in the development of LaSalle county, the Watts family, founded here nearly three-score years ago by the subject of this biography, is deserving of special mention. Loyal, patriotic citizens, always to be relied upon to use their influence and ballot for the right and best, for progress and improvement in all lines, their example is worthy of respect and emulation.

Philip C. Watts, of South Ottawa, comes from one of the honored old families of Devonshire, England. His grandfather in the paternal line was one Joseph Watts, a farmer, whose wife was Dolly (Reed) Watts. Our subject, born in Devonshire, June 24, 1822, is one of the eight children of John and Elizabeth (Challacombe) Watts. The Challacombes were direct descendants of William The Conqueror. The others were as follows: William; Joseph; Elizabeth, wife of James Parker, of Macoupin county, Illinois; John, who served as a soldier in the war between the United States and Mexico and later engaged in gold-mining in Australia and California; James, who was drowned in the river at LaSalle, Illinois; Henry, a resident of Devonshire, England; and Rebecca, wife of T. Chammins.

When Philip C. Watts was seventeen years of age he came to the United States with the family, staying one year in New York, and since 1840 he has dwelt in LaSalle county. He has been an ardent Republican since the organization of the party, and has acted in the capacity of justice of the peace and as a member of the school board for many years.

A notable event in the history of P. C. Watts was his marriage, November 5, 1847, to Miss Margaret A. Brown, a daughter of Charles Brown, who came to Illinois in 1830 in a covered wagon from the east. He settled upon a claim south of Ottawa, built a log cabin and proceeded to develop a farm. During the Black Hawk war he joined a military organization styled the home guards. The brothers and sisters of Mrs. Watts are Louisa, widow of Calvin Ells, and William, both deceased; Clarissa, wife of Christopher Mills, of Marysville, California; Russell, a successful business man of Ottawa; and

Edward, deceased. The father died May 20, 1876, when four-score years of age, and the mother December 11, 1876, after having attained the age of seventy-eight years.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Watts nine children were born, and this happy family circle is still untouched by the angel of death. Charles B., the eldest, is supervisor of Earlville, Illinois, and by his marriage to Miss Anne Gillett he has six children: Clarence, Harry, Alice, Daisy, Willie and Archie. Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of our subject, is the wife of J. M. Poundstone, of Ottawa, and the mother of four children,—Ralph, Florence, Mabel and Grace. Henrietta, wife of J. Jones, of Livingston county, has three little ones,—Clara, Howard and Philip. Laura, now a resident of Peabody, Kansas, is the wife of Alexander Gray and has two children,—Arthur and Celia. Louise married Walter Trumbow, of Peabody, Kansas, and they have two sons,—Wesley and Ray. Florence wedded B. Holler, of Peabody, Kansas; Wallace lives on the home farm; and Lucy and Clara are still living at home.

The year which witnessed the fiftieth anniversary of the happy wedded life of Mr. and Mrs. Watts was celebrated by them in a very pleasant manner. It happened that the great jubilee in honor of Queen Victoria was held that year, and they decided to visit England. They went together to the childhood home of Mr. Watts, where he renewed his friendship with old associates, and the trip has left many pleasant memories in the minds of both. They have reared their children to be noble, useful citizens, have always striven to do their duty toward God and man, and without regret may look backward along the pathway they have pursued hand in hand. They are earnest members of the Methodist church, as are their children, and they feel that the promise of old has been fulfilled to them, that "goodness and mercy have followed them all the days of their lives."

CHRISTIAN F. BRANDENBURG.

Christian F. Brandenburg, the son of the venerable and wealthy pioneer, Peter Brandenburg, was born just west of Serena, December 23, 1856. He obtained but little education at school, and his history can be summed up briefly by saying that hard work has been his lot for thirty years, in which he has been able to make a hand on the farm. His life history, could it be written in full, would be filled with trying experiences, and finally crowned with that abundant success his labors and perseverance so richly merit. When it comes to "ups and downs" in life he steps aside and permits us to make a brief reference to his paternal ancestors.

Peter Brandenburg was born in Heistelburg, Nassau, Germany, Sep-

tember 26, 1824. His father bore the same Christian name and his mother was a Miss Tomas. Peter is the third of four children of his farmer father, and he went to the German schools, as was required, until he was fourteen years of age. He then learned the old country method of farming and remained with his father until he was twenty-four years old. He was then given his liberty and barely enough money to pay his passage to America. He sailed for the New World, being induced hither by some neighbor boys who had preceded him; and he says that he was so displeased with the outlook when he first landed that he wished many times he were back in the old fatherland. He did not have a five-cent piece when he arrived at Serena; so he was obliged to get work at once. He entered the employ of a farmer for eleven dollars a month, and remained a farm hand for five long years. In this period of time he saved six hundred dollars, and he bargained for his first American real estate,—the old homestead west of the village of Serena. He agreed to make payments on the same annually for three years, and really saw no reason why he could not fulfil his agreement. He set out with a light heart, for he was now his own governor and the sole manager of the earthly affairs of the industrious Peter. His first crop was eaten up by the chinch bugs; this was discouraging; but he planted again, and the second season he came out as badly as the first. The third year he also failed to get a good crop, and this so disheartened him that he proposed to his creditor that he take the farm back; that he had worked three years, day and night, and had nothing to show in return, and of course could pay nothing on the land. The man who sold to him tried to discourage this move and insisted that he try it yet one more year; and this he did, and with wonderful success. From that date on he made money rapidly and added to his realty holdings with great swiftness. He was as good as two hands himself and he had plenty of boys, who inherited their father's industry, so that he followed agriculture on a large scale, with little outlay for his help. But no matter how well he prospered, Peter Brandenburg never ceased work for himself until he found himself worn out and heavy with age. He is one of the largest land-owners in LaSalle county, and is not unfrequently referred to as "the old German who got rich by hard work."

This venerable old German, for his wife, married, in LaSalle county in 1855, Catherine Weber, who died in 1877. Her children are: Christian F. (our subject); Caroline, wife of Joseph Moore; Frank Brandenburg, who is a prominent young farmer of the town of Serena, and who married Ella De Bolt; Mary, wife of George Jones, of Serena, Illinois; and George, who married Ida Whitman and now resides on the old home place. In 1887 Peter Brandenburg married Mrs. Matthias Stine, whose maiden name was Kathrina Kern, and first husband Jacob Meyer.

Our subject was married February 12, 1895, to Freda, daughter of Jacob Meyer, whose widow afterward married Peter Brandenburg. Freda was born in Germany in 1877, and she is the mother of two children,—Ruby and Raymond.

The Brandenburgs have done as much as any other family toward the development and improvement of the town of Serena. They have given their energies freely, as others have done, expecting reward, and have not been disappointed. They have grubbed roots, dug ditches and erected buildings and done the innumerable other necessary things to be done in improving a new country until their farms "blossom as the rose," as it were, giving evidence of progress and prosperity at every point of view. They have not dabbled in politics, for there is no promise of reward in that. They have not undertaken other and strange ventures, with the hope of avoiding hard labor and at the same time making big money, for they are the firm believers in the adage, "Let well enough alone."

W. B. CUMMINS.

This gentleman has had an experience of twenty-two years in the grain business, and since 1888 has been located at Ransom, LaSalle county, Illinois, where he is the representative of the Bartlett-Frazier Company, of Chicago. He owns the grain elevator here and a half interest in the business, and each year handles a large amount of grain, averaging no less than four hundred thousand bushels. In 1897 he shipped three hundred and sixty-seven car-loads and in 1898 three hundred and fifty-eight car-loads.

Mr. Cummins is a native of Lincoln, Marshall county, Illinois, and was born March 29, 1851. His father, Theodore Cummins, was a native of Steuben county, New York; his mother, whose maiden name was Nancy White, was born in North Carolina, and their family comprised three children, now married and scattered: W. B., whose name introduces this sketch; Ervin, of Hot Springs, Arkansas; and Mary Duchene, of Carlisle, Arkansas. The father of this family died at the age of seventy-two. The mother is still living, in Carlisle, Arkansas.

W. B. Cummins was reared and educated in his native state, completing his studies with a high-school course, and, with the exception of a few months spent in Carlisle, Arkansas, he has always made his home in Illinois. He was stationed for some time at Ancona, this state, where he bought grain, and since 1888 he has been located at Ransom.

At the age of twenty Mr. Cummins was united in marriage to Miss Ida Pratt, a native of Long Point, Livingston county, Illinois, and a daughter of

Philander Pratt, of this state. Mr. and Mrs. Cummins have an only child, Belle, who is now the wife of Frank Mears, of Kankakee, Illinois.

Ever since he became a voter Mr. Cummins has given active support to the Democratic party, and at this writing is serving as township clerk. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America.

JOSEPH L. ARMSTRONG.

Success in any walk of life is not the result of chance, but is the outcome of keen sagacity in business affairs combined with well directed effort, and it is these qualities which have made Mr. Armstrong, of Brookville township, one of the most enterprising and prosperous farmers of LaSalle county.

His birth occurred on the old family homestead March 1, 1847, his parents being Hon. George W. and Nancy Armstrong. His father was born in Ohio, December 11, 1812, and was a son of Joseph Armstrong, whose birth occurred in Ireland and who was of Scotch-Irish descent. The great-grandfather, John Armstrong, was a linen merchant, and came to the United States in 1780, locating in Somerset county, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in merchandising for a number of years. His son Joseph was a lad of only ten years at the time of the emigration to America. He was reared and educated in Pennsylvania and there married Miss Elsie Strawn, a representative of an old and honored Pennsylvania family. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Armstrong were born nine sons, namely: John S., who died in Ottawa, Illinois; George W., the father of our subject; William, who died in South Ottawa, in 1850; Joel, who died near Ottawa, in 1871; Jeremiah, who went west in 1849 and died in California in 1850; James, who died near Ottawa; P. A., a very prominent citizen of Morris; Clifford, who died in Licking county, Ohio; and I. Z., who went to the west in 1849, and is now living in Sacramento, California. Joseph Armstrong, the father, died in 1856, and the mother passed away in 1871.

George W. Armstrong spent his youth in Ohio and is indebted to its common schools for the educational privileges afforded him. In 1831 he came to the west, making the journey with wagon and team. Two years previously his brother John had come to Illinois and taken up his abode in Putnam county. During the Black Hawk war George W. Armstrong was with his mother and brothers in the fort at Ottawa. They settled in this county in 1831 on a half section of land, built a log cabin and began life in the west in true pioneer style. On the 10th of March, 1835, George Armstrong was married, in Jacksonville, Illinois, to Miss Nancy Green, a native of Knox county, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Susanah (Winter) Green,

both of whom are now deceased. Her sister, Matilda Green, was the first wife of Jacob Strawn, the great cattle king.

Mr. Armstrong, father of our subject, has led a very busy and useful life and is a prominent and influential citizen. For a year or two he operated a sawmill on Wauponsee creek, in Grundy county, and then built and opened a general store, which he later sold. For nineteen years he served as a supervisor and for twelve years was the chairman of the board. For ten years he was a member of the state legislature, being elected first in 1844. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1847. He was elected to the legislature again in 1871, after which he served for six years without interruption. He was an active working member of the house and aided in securing the adoption of many important measures which have proved of great benefit to the state. He was also a member of the first county convention of LaSalle county, and at all times has been a progressive, public-spirited and loyal citizen. He was a war Democrat at the time of the hostility between the north and the south and was an ardent admirer of Stephen A. Douglas, the Little Giant of Illinois. Probably no man in LaSalle county has been more prominent in public affairs or done more for her best interests than George W. Armstrong, who has left the impress of his individuality upon many departments of our public life. A valued member of the Masonic fraternity, he was one of the active promoters of Seneca Lodge, in which he held his membership. He was a man five feet and seven inches in height, erect in carriage and quick in movement. He was of high moral character, firm in his convictions, and the temerity with which he made known his position and his marked ability well fitted him for leadership. His wife passed away February 25, 1893. Like her husband, she shared the high regard of all who knew her, for she possessed many sweet, womanly qualities which endeared her to all. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong were born nine children, eight of whom are now living: William, of Pueblo, Colorado, who served for four years as a Union soldier in the civil war, being captain of Company A, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry; Rev. Julius C., a pastor in the Congregational church, who served for three years with the Ninety-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers; Millie Eliza, wife of William Crowley, of Burlington, Kansas; Joseph L., who is living on the old homestead farm; Marshall W., a well known attorney of Ottawa; Susan Ida, wife of L. B. Laughlin, of Bridgewater, South Dakota; James E., principal of the high school at Englewood, Illinois; Charles G., an electrician in Chicago; and John G., who was a successful lawyer, and died in Ottawa in 1890, at the age of fifty-four years.

Joseph Armstrong, whose name begins this sketch, was reared and educated in LaSalle county, and having arrived at years of maturity he was married, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Miss Laura J. Henderson, the daughter of

John P. Henderson, now deceased. They located on the old home farm, which comprises four hundred and thirty acres of rich and arable land. Altogether Mr. Armstrong owns eight hundred and sixty acres, and from the golden harvests which he garners he secures a good income. He is accounted one of the leading agriculturists of the county, and in his methods he is progressive, practical and systematic. His dealings are also characterized by the utmost fairness, and he justly merits the confidence reposed in him.

Politically Mr. Armstrong is a Democrat, having supported that party since attaining his majority. He keeps well informed on the issues which divide the country politically, and is therefore prepared to give intelligent support to his views. He has served for four years as a county supervisor, and has been a member of the school board for fifteen years, discharging his duties in a most prompt and satisfactory manner. Not only as a representative of one of the prominent pioneer families of the county, but also because of his own personal merits, does he deserve mention in this volume among the leading citizens of his section of the state.

HENRY PECK.

In the vicinity of Ottawa, LaSalle county, is some of the finest farm land in the northern part of Illinois, and much of the prosperity of this section is due to this fact and to one other of equal importance, that the agriculturists hereabouts are thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the times and are progressive in the extreme.

One of the successful farmers of this locality is Henry Peck, whose birth occurred in the town of Ottawa, September 27, 1846. He is a son of David and Jane (Griffith) Peck and a grandson of Baker Peck, who was a native of Vermont. David Peck was born in Clark county, Ohio, where his father had located at an early day. When grown to manhood he mastered the trades of brick-mason and tailor, and, concluding that he would fare better in the west, where towns were rapidly being built up, he came to Ottawa. Here he found plenty of employment for years, but when still in his prime he was summoned to the home beyond. He left four children, namely: Anna, who is the wife of Albert McIntyre, and Ruth, May and Henry. The mother subsequently (about 1858) became the wife of James Pickens.

In his boyhood and youth Henry Peck attended the schools of Ottawa, worked on the farm and clerked in a dry-goods store. In 1882 he took up his abode on the fine homestead where he is still living. It is located but half a mile from the town, and was formerly the property of the Rev. Justice M. Clark. Mr. Peck is extensively engaged in the stock business, buying and

selling cattle and hogs, and in addition to that line of enterprise he has given some attention to dairying of late years, having numerous customers in Ottawa.

When he was twenty-five years of age Mr. Peck married Addie, daughter of James Pickens, and several years afterward she died, leaving two children. Fred, now in his twenty-fifth year, was one of the patriotic young men who responded to his country's call in the Spanish-American war, and served under Colonel Bennett as a member of Company C, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Nellie, the daughter, became the wife of Cyrus P. Bradish, who is deceased. In 1882 Mr. Peck wedded Miss Sarah Farnsworth, a daughter of Robert Farnsworth, and five children bless their union, namely: Bertha, Edward, Jane, Belle and Joseph.

Mr. Peck is connected with the Masonic order, being a member of Occidental Lodge, No. 40. In his political creed he is a Democrat.

HON. IRVING H. TROWBRIDGE.

During the past decade this prominent citizen of Marseilles, LaSalle county, has been before the public continuously in official capacities, and has demonstrated beyond question his fitness as a representative of the people. A fearless champion of what he earnestly believes to be their rights, he presents his views in a concise manner, carrying conviction with him.

The Trowbridges originated in Scotland, but many generations have come and gone in America since the family was founded in the New World. The paternal grandfather of our subject was William Trowbridge. Sumner Trowbridge, the father, is still living, his home being in Delta, Fulton county, Ohio, where he was a pioneer and has passed the major portion of his life.

The birth of the Hon. Irving H. Trowbridge occurred March 16, 1849, on the old homestead near Delta. With the basis of a good common-school education, obtained in the village of Delta, and at Three Rivers, Michigan, he entered Adrian College, at Adrian, Michigan, where he pursued studies in the higher branches of learning. Then, returning to his native town, he found employment in the service of a local druggist, and within the ensuing five years thoroughly mastered the business. In 1876 he came to Marseilles, where he has since carried on a drug-store of his own.

In October, 1873, Mr. Trowbridge married Miss Ella Stall, of Delta, Ohio. She was a lady of amiable disposition and was loved by all who knew her. Six years ago, in June, 1893, the little household over whose comfort and happiness she presided with womanly grace, was called upon

Very respty. Yours

O. H. Trowbridge

to mourn her loss, as she was summoned to the heavenly mansions. She left three promising children—Leslie J., Ralph E., and Irene.

Though he has always taken an active interest in the election of the nominees of the Republican party and the triumph of its principles, Mr. Trowbridge had never aspired to public office and it was a matter of surprise to him when, in 1890, he was elected as a member of the board of county supervisors from Rutland township. He acted in that important position for six years, to the full satisfaction of the people, and upon his retirement from the office in 1896 he was nominated and elected to the legislature. While serving as a representative he was especially honored for a new member, as he was made chairman of the mines and mining committee, and served on the committees on education, license, civil service, drainage and waterways, and geology and science. In each of these committees he distinguished himself by his clear and comprehensive grasp of the questions involved, and his ready and practical solutions of difficulties presenting themselves. When his name came before the people for consideration at the time of the expiration of his first term, he was renominated, with small opposition, and in the fall of 1898 was duly re-elected. In the organization of the Forty-first General Assembly he was made chairman of the committee on education—one of the most important of the house committees—and was also a member of the steering committee, which is the body that shapes all legislation during the session. He was very successful in all legislation committed to his care by his constituents, some of which was of great importance. He has a wide acquaintanceship with the leading men of the day and possesses broad, liberal views upon all great public issues.

August 15, 1894, Mr. Trowbridge wedded Miss Rebekah S. Pomeroy, a daughter of Cyrus Pomeroy, of Marseilles, and two children have been born to them—Cyrus P. and Irving Harrison.

HENRY HOLMES.

Well known in Ottawa and within a radius of twenty-five miles of this place, Henry Holmes ranks as a representative citizen of LaSalle county. As an honored veteran of the civil war, as an active worker in the Republican party, and as a conscientious, upright business man, he enjoys the respect of a multitude of friends, and is justly entitled to be remembered as an old settler of Illinois.

For three years Mr. Holmes has given his attention to the management of his livery, feed and sale stable at No. 417 LaSalle street, Ottawa. The establishment is located near the new bridge and is thoroughly equipped with

carriages and vehicles of different kinds and a good stock of driving horses. The barn, forty by eighty feet in dimensions and three stories in height, was originally built for a grain elevator, and was used as such for some time, but has been found to be equally well adapted to the purpose for which it is now utilized. In 1896 Mr. Holmes sold out to Mr. C. Campbell, but in October, 1898, he resumed the control of the business, and has since carried it on successfully.

A son of John Holmes, a hotel-keeper, Henry Holmes was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 16, 1840, the year of the famous "Tippecanoe" Harrison campaign. In his youth he attended the common schools of Indiana, and in 1856, when the excitement over gold discoveries in Colorado was intense, he went to Pike's Peak, but returned home at the end of some three months. In 1861 he offered his services to the United States, enlisting in Company A, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry. For three years and eight months he endured the hardships and perils of a soldier's life, striving to preserve the Union, and among the numerous battles and encounters in which he was engaged against the enemy were those at Shiloh, Jackson (Mississippi), and the siege of Vicksburg, besides the famous march to the sea with Sherman. Since he received the right of franchise he has given his allegiance to the Republican party.

About the time he arrived at his majority Mr. Holmes was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Cummings, who died February 26, 1880, leaving three children, namely: George, Harry and Mary. The daughter is now the wife of Henry Arnold of Chicago, Illinois. In April, 1881, Mr. Holmes was married to Miss Emma Walter. Three children bless this union,—Flora, Willie and Lucy. The family reside in a pleasant home and have many sincere friends among the citizens of Ottawa and vicinity.

H. G. KRUSE.

H. G. Kruse, an enterprising young business man of Ottawa, possesses the qualifications which insure success in any line of endeavor, and by the exercise of judicious methods, excellent management and uniform courtesy toward his customers he has won the respect and confidence of the public.

The father of our subject, G. W. Kruse, was a native of Germany, in which country he passed twenty-five years of his life. Then, coming to America in order to obtain the better opportunities for making a livelihood afforded here, he became a loyal citizen of the United States. Soon after his arrival on these hospitable shores he was united in marriage with Miss Annie Gronewald, who died in 1867, and left two sons and two daughters to mourn her loss.

Of these children, H. G. Kruse was born in Macomb, Illinois, August 20, 1867. He attended the common schools of that place and in Kewanee served an apprenticeship at the wheelwright's trade under the guidance of O. F. Kreidler. In 1887 he became the head trimmer for the firm of Gay & Son, carriage manufacturers in Ottawa, Illinois, with which firm he continued for four or five years. He is now the proprietor of the Kruse Manufacturing Company, his plant being situated at the corner of Clinton and Jackson streets, in the central part of Ottawa. The building is a new one, substantial in construction, thirty by sixty feet in dimensions, and with a wing thirty by forty feet, used for a shop. The fourteen years of practical experience which Mr. Kruse has had in his present line of business renders him thoroughly familiar with the demands of the trade and abundantly able to supply his customers with just the kind of vehicle which they desire. He manufactures various kinds of carriages, road wagons and carts, and for style and workmanship, excellence and durability of material, the vehicles turned out from this establishment are rarely surpassed.

Five years ago, August 7, 1894, Mr. Kruse was married to Miss Meta Bruck, whose father, J. Bruck, is an old settler of Ottawa, and for many years was engaged in the tailoring business here. The pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Kruse is brightened by the presence of their little daughter, Harriett, their only child. In his political standing Mr. Kruse is affiliated with the Democratic party. He is an exemplary citizen, meeting every responsibility and duty in a manly, straightforward way, and seeking ever to forward the best interests of the community in which he dwells.

B. FRANK TRUMBO.

Trumbo is a familiar name in LaSalle county. The family which bears it was founded here along with the Greens and other pioneers of Dayton and Rutland townships and have left to later generations the impress of their civilizing influence. While Frank Trumbo, the subject of this sketch, is not a descendant of the first Trumbos of the county, he is a blood relative and possesses the same family characteristics which endear Elias Trumbo and his descendants to the population of the above-mentioned townships.

B. Frank Trumbo is a son of Moab Perry Trumbo, one of the successful farmers of Dayton township, LaSalle county, where he settled in 1853, having come here that year from the "Old Dominion." Moab Perry Trumbo was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, December 16, 1829. The farm upon which he was born has been the property of the Trumbos

for one hundred and thirty years, having been the property of his grandfather and father, both named Jacob. The younger Jacob Trumbo also came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in the year 1853, and shortly after his arrival here he died. His wife Elizabeth, nee Snyder, will be remembered by the people of Dayton township as living as late as 1873. Their children are: Dorothy, widow of Lewis Hess, of Kingman, Kansas; Oliver, assessor of Dayton township, LaSalle county; Moab P., and Mary J., wife of Isaac Green, of Dayton township. Moab P. Trumbo and his wife, whose maiden name was Rebecca Kagy, have two children—Frank and Maie. The latter is the wife of Ed. Bradfor, the proprietor of the Ottawa Steam Laundry.

It was on the old Trumbo homestead in Dayton township, November 25, 1862, that Frank Trumbo was born. He was educated in the public schools and in Drew's Business College, and on completing his studies settled down to the life of a farmer. He has ever since been engaged in general farming and stock-raising, and is regarded as one of the most promising young farmers in the township.

Mr. Trumbo was married December 3, 1886, to Miss Josephine Rhodes, the daughter of Joseph Rhodes, well known in Ottawa as "the liveryman." Their union has been blessed in the birth of two children: Helena, born in 1887, and Josephine, born in 1892.

Mr. Trumbo is a Democrat and is at this writing the supervisor of his township, to which office he was elected in the spring of 1898. Also he is serving on the public-buildings committee and on the committee to settle with the recorder and to audit the accounts of the state attorney. And in this connection it should be further stated that he had been drawn into the public service by being named and elected for office without personal solicitation on his part.

REV. J. J. GROGAN.

The pastor of St. Patrick's church at Ransom, LaSalle county, Illinois, is a familiar figure to the residents of that vicinity and he has made many friends aside from those who come under his jurisdiction as a pastor. His work in the ministry since coming to this charge has been attended with the most flattering results and has marked him as a man of no small executive ability and as a shepherd who watches carefully after the spiritual wants of his flock. He was educated in the University of Chicago, being a student there from 1863 to 1867. The following year he was made curate of St. Patrick's church, on the West Side, Chicago. While there he built St. Jarlath's church, which is located on Jackson street, and had charge of that

district for about four years. His next charge was at Mill Creek, Lake county, this state, where a handsome church was erected under his guidance, and two years later he was transferred to Sheffield, Bureau county, Illinois, where a parsonage and parochial building were built, at a cost of two thousand dollars.

The church of St. Patrick's, at Ransom, was built in 1883, at a cost of somewhat over two thousand dollars, and six years later Father Grogan was given charge of the parish. He at once set about improving and remodeling this structure, the cost being about twenty-five hundred dollars. He also purchased six additional lots, and the property as it stands to-day speaks eloquently of the reverend father's energy and forethought. It is beautifully situated in a charming location, and is one of the most attractive spots in this vicinity. The parish organization is composed of about fifty families, and the love and reverence in which they hold their pastor is but a fitting tribute to his worth. The quiet, earnest manner in which he has gone about his work, and the success which has characterized his ministrations, have caused him to be highly regarded by all who have had the opportunity of meeting him, and no citizen stands higher in the esteem and honor of the residents than the faithful, hard-working pastor of St. Patrick's.

MARTIN C. HODGSON.

Ridge Farm, one of the best known horse farms in LaSalle county, Illinois, is owned by the Hodgson estate and operated by Martin C. Hodgson, son of and successor to the original founder of the farm, Eli Hodgson. In this connection we take pleasure in referring personally to both gentlemen.

Eli Hodgson was born in the state of Ohio in 1819, son of Joel Hodgson, who emigrated to Illinois in the year 1831. In this state Eli was reared from his eleventh year, and was here married to Miss Phoebe Kincade, who bore him the following named children: Ellen and Mary, who died in childhood; Sarah, wife of F. W. Farnham, of Shell City, Missouri; Almeda, who died, unmarried; Martin C., whose name initiates this sketch; Emily, wife of L. B. Pickerill, of Clinton, Illinois; J. W., of Lexington, Nebraska; Martha J., of Clinton, Illinois; and Joel E., of Ottawa, Illinois. Eli Hodgson came to Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, in 1853, when this part of the country was all wild land, and here purchased three hundred and twenty acres, comprising what is now known as Ridge Farm, and a few years later, in 1858, began dealing in horses. He was one of the first men in the state to give especial attention to fine horses. In 1874 he first imported Percheron

stock direct from France, and made it a point to secure the best the market afforded. Mr. E. Dillon, another well known importer of stock in this state, was a brother-in-law of Eli Hodgson. The latter built a fine house and barn on his farm and otherwise improved the same, and became well known as one of the leading men of the county, recognized as an authority on all questions pertaining to horses. He was noted for his fair dealing and his hospitality. The latch-string of his home was always out, and a cordial welcome was extended to all who came his way. He was politically a Republican, and religiously a member of the Christian church. In physique he was large and well proportioned, weighing about two hundred pounds, and in manner he was always genial and obliging. He died November 11, 1893, and his good wife passed away December 20, 1895; she was born November 6, 1822.

Martin C. Hodgson was born August 6, 1852, in Tazewell county, Illinois, and was a babe when brought to the farm on which he has since resided. He received his education in the district schools, the academy at Eureka, Illinois, and in the broad school of experience. As soon as he arrived at adult years he became his father's partner and was associated with him in business up to the time of his father's death, when he succeeded him. Under his supervision Ridge Farm maintains the high standard of excellence which it had attained, and its horses, both black and gray Percherons, are second to none in the state.

Mr. Hodgson has been twice married. At the age of twenty-five he married Miss Elizabeth Wilson, daughter of James Wilson, of Iowa, and to them were given four children,—Edna F., Ethel Maud, Everett Eli and Ernest W. This wife and mother died in 1886, and in 1894 he wedded Miss Hattie M. Zibbell.

Like his father, Mr. Hodgson is a man of large physique and pleasing manner. Indeed, he possesses many of his father's sterling characteristics. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order, and has taken the Knight Templar degrees, having membership in Ottawa Commandery, No. 10.

JAMES GORDON.

The extensive landed interests—seven hundred and sixty acres—which are scheduled as part of the property of James Gordon, have been acquired entirely through his well-directed and earnest efforts, and thus he is justly entitled to the proud American title of a self-made man. Although he has now rounded the psalmist's span of three-score years and ten, he possesses the vigor and energy of a man of much younger years, and is still actively

identified with the business interests of LaSalle county, as a farmer and stock-raiser, his home being one of the fine farming properties of Allan township.

Mr. Gordon, who has been a resident of the county since 1853, and was born in Roxburyshire, on the Tweed, in the north of England, seventy-three years ago, his parents being John and Mary (Davidson) Gordon. His father was a native of Coldstrom, Scotland, while the mother was born in the north of England. They both died in the latter country, where they had spent their married life. Their four children were James; Elizabeth; John, who died in Ford county, Illinois; and Margaret, who is living in England.

James Gordon spent the days of his childhood and youth in the land of his nativity, and there acquired a good common-school education and learned a trade. When about twenty-six years of age he sailed from Liverpool to New York, hoping to benefit his financial condition in the New World. After eight weeks and four days spent upon the broad Atlantic he landed in the eastern metropolis, whence he at once came to LaSalle county. Here he began earning his livelihood by working in the harvest fields, and the following year he worked in a sawmill in Putnam county. His first purchase of land comprised eighty acres, in Brookfield township, two miles south of Marseilles. With characteristic energy he began its development, and his careful management and practical business methods soon enabled him to extend the boundaries of his farm. From time to time he has added to his landed possessions until he now has four hundred and forty acres in Brookfield township and three hundred and twenty acres in Allan township. He resides upon the latter and on the home farm he has erected a fine modern residence, large and substantial barns and commodious sheds for the shelter of his stock. He also has a wind-mill and the latest improved machinery. There are also good pastures, supplied with running water, and beautiful groves add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. Mr. Gordon makes a specialty of raising blooded cattle and has made a close study of the needs of stock, so that this branch of his business is most ably carried on and has proved a very profitable source of income.

In Ottawa, Illinois, Mr. Gordon was married to Miss Johanna Howard, and to them have been born five children, namely: John, who is married and resides in Shaler, Iowa; James, who married Miss Ida Pelon, and is located on the old homestead, in Brookville township; Hannah and Frank, both at home; and Jane, wife of James Kennedy, of Brookfield township.

Mr. Gordon votes with the Republican party and is deeply interested

in political matters, keeping well informed on the questions and issues of the day. He has never sought public office, however, preferring to devote his energies to his business interests, which have been so capably controlled that he has won signal success.

HIRAM D. OLMSTEAD.

Hiram D. Olmstead, more familiarly known among a wide circle of friends as Deacon Olmstead, is a retired farmer of Ottawa, LaSalle county, Illinois. He was born in the town of Catherine, Tioga county, New York, December 9, 1822, and is a son of David and Esther (Clinton) Olmstead. The father was born in the year 1800, in the state of Connecticut, and the mother two years later, in the state of Massachusetts. She was a relative of the celebrated Governor DeWitt Clinton, of New York. In October, 1832, David Olmstead and his family started on their long journey from New York to this county. The trip was made by wagon and was necessarily slow and tedious. Arriving here they took up a claim some four miles northeast of Marseilles. This land was afterward offered for sale by the government, the squatter having the first right to purchase. Mr. Olmstead bought the one hundred and sixty acres upon which he had settled and set about its improvement. Here he lived during the remainder of his life, adding to the original purchase until he had acquired three hundred and twenty acres of land. He was a man of courage and great force of character, making him a fearless defender of right. He was an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and died on his farm in 1855, deeply mourned by all who knew him. His wife had crossed the river of Death three years previously to the removal of the family to this state. His father was one of the first settlers in LaSalle county. He was a good friend of Sibbony, the noted Indian chief.

Hiram D. Olmstead was but ten years old when he came to this county. He attended school during the winter months until he was nineteen years of age. The school-house was a rude affair of logs, with benches taking the place of the comfortable desk and seat of our modern civilization, and it was surprising what swift progress they made. When nineteen years of age he began to operate for himself, working on a farm by the month for three years. In 1844 he was married to Mrs. Elnor A. Harding, the widowed daughter of James Howland, of New York state. She owned a farm and upon it they moved after their marriage and lived for upward of thirty years, and here the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Olmstead were born and grew up. They are as follows: Charles H., a farmer in Dayton town-

ship; Smith H., deceased, whose widow resides on the homestead; Judson H., now of Kansas; and Almira, wife of A. H. Fuller, of Ottawa.

Mr. Olmstead added to his occupation as farmer that of raising fine hogs, his pigs growing into popular favor and being shipped to all parts of the state for breeding purposes and invariably commanding good prices. In 1876 the family moved to Ottawa and rented the farm to the son, Smith H. They have made their home in the city since; and here, on March 23, 1896, Mrs. Olmstead passed to her reward after rounding out eighty-one years of usefulness. She was a woman of strong sympathies, a devoted wife and mother and an untiring worker in the vineyard of the Master. She had for years been an earnest laborer in the Baptist church, in which organization her husband has been a deacon for forty years. Mr. Olmstead is a stalwart Republican and was trustee of Freedom township for a number of years. He is now in his seventy-seventh year and is a fine example of well-preserved manhood, being hale and hearty, a fact which is no doubt largely attributable to his total abstinence from tobacco and liquors of all kinds.

JOHN M. COSTELLO.

John M. Costello is the well known blacksmith of Ottawa, whose fame as a horse-shoer of more than average ability has gained for him more than a local reputation. He is a native of this county, having entered this mundane sphere at the village of Marseilles on August 15, 1846. He is a son of Michael and Mary (Hogan) Costello, both parents having come from Ireland to this country in 1840. Michael Costello was a contractor on the Illinois and Michigan canal, but sold this contract later to Michael Killelea and moved upon a farm about three miles from Marseilles. He lived there until his death, in 1850, and became a successful farmer and stock-raiser. Five children were born to him, viz.: Ellen, wife of William Killelea; Mary Ann, wife of John W. Gaffaney, of Chicago; Margaret S., of Chicago; Bridget, widow of Mr. Lynch; and John W., our subject. The widow and five children survive his death.

John M. Costello was about four years old at the time of his father's death and made his home with the family of Michael Killelea until he was fourteen years old, attending school at the Grove school-house. He was then bound to Patrick McDermott, of Ottawa, to learn the trade of blacksmith. After serving his time he went to work for Thomas McDermott for a time, but later went to Morris, where he worked at his trade. Returning to Ottawa he was employed four years by Hahn & Shehan, buggy and wagon manufacturers. He then entered into a partnership with John

Leonard for eighteen months, running a shop in this city. In 1876 he opened a shop at No. 108 East Main street, in an old frame building, formerly a part of the old Mansion house, kept by one Mr. Wade, but his business increased to such an extent that this building would not meet the requirements of his trade and he erected a two-story brick building. He now has three forges and has three men working for him the greater part of the time, and has all the work he can attend to, being especially in demand among the farmers.

November 26, 1874, he was married to Miss Eliza Fennerty, a native of Ottawa and the eldest daughter of James and Bridget (O'Brien) Fennerty, who were born in Ireland and emigrated to America in 1831, coming to Ottawa in 1834. Mr. Costello has erected a fine residence on Post street for his home, and owns besides other city property. He began life in a small way with but scant means, and by industry and frugality has laid by a competency which will allow him to pass his last days in comfort and ease if he be so disposed. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

C. W. WOODWARD.

Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, Illinois, includes among its leading citizens the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. On his present farm, which comprises two hundred and five acres, Mr. Woodward has resided since 1871, when he purchased it of George Mills, and he is thoroughly identified with the best interests of this locality. Some personal mention of him is appropriate in this work, and we take pleasure in presenting to our readers the following review:

C. W. Woodward was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, February 23, 1847, the son of Caleb Woodward, also a native of Fayette county, Pennsylvania. Joseph Woodward, the grandfather of our subject, was likewise born in the Keystone state. He was of Scotch and English descent and was a man of honest industry, by occupation a farmer. Caleb Woodward grew up on his father's farm in Fayette county, and there married Miss Rebecca Lynn, a native of that county and a daughter of Samuel Lynn and wife, nee McCormick, both of whom died in Pennsylvania. Caleb Woodward died in Pennsylvania, in 1847, when our subject was six months old, and his widow later became the wife of Elias Jeffries. She died in Delaware county, Iowa, in 1859.

After his father's death the subject of our sketch found a home with his paternal grandfather, with whom he lived for nine years. From his ninth year until he reached maturity he was a member of the household of his

uncle, Taylor Woodward. His youth was passed in farm work, and a portion of each year he attended the public schools. On reaching manhood he engaged in farming on his own account, remaining in Fayette county until 1871, in which year he came west to Illinois and purchased the farm he now occupies, as stated in the beginning of this sketch. This place is nicely improved with first-class buildings, etc., the residence being located on a natural building site, and everything conveniently arranged and well kept.

Mr. Woodward was married October 24, 1867, to Miss Martha J. Leckey, a native of the same county in which he was born, and a daughter of William and Mary A. (Moore) Leckey, also natives of Fayette county. Mrs. Leckey died in middle life, leaving two children—Mrs. Woodward and Mrs. Louisa Rice, of Fayette county. Mr. Leckey lived to the age of sixty years, and he likewise died in Pennsylvania. By a second marriage he had other children. By trade he was a millwright, in politics was a Republican, and in religion a Lutheran. To Mr. and Mrs. Woodward have been born eleven children, nine sons and two daughters, namely: Anna Alice, wife of Charles Palmer of Grand Ridge, Illinois; Charles Lynn, a bookkeeper of Ottawa, Illinois; William A., of Webster county, Iowa; I. Lewis, a bridge-builder of LaSalle county; Etta M., at home; Arthur E., of Webster county, Iowa; Chester R., at home; Clayton, a student of Lake Forest, Illinois; and Samuel C., Kent L. and Floyd Wayne. Mr. and Mrs. Woodward are members of the Presbyterian church. Politically he is a Republican.

THOMAS ROWE.

Thomas Rowe is one of the well known early settlers of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, Illinois. He was born in New Haven county, Connecticut, December 12, 1831, and is descended from old New England families who were noted for their industry, honesty and patriotism. Mr. Rowe's father was Frederick Rowe, a native of Bennington, Vermont. Frederick Rowe's mother was, before marriage, a Miss Perry, and her people were among the patriots in Revolutionary times, six of her brothers serving in the Revolutionary army. Thomas Rowe's mother's maiden name was Hepsebee Johnson. She was born in New Haven, Connecticut, daughter of Jesse Johnson, whose ancestors came from England in the Mayflower.

In 1849 Frederick Rowe left his New England home and, accompanied by his family, came west to Illinois, making the journey across the country to Buffalo, thence via the lakes to Chicago, and by canal from Chicago to Ottawa. Arrived in LaSalle county, he settled in Grand Rapids township,

and here he passed the rest of his life and died, his age at death being seventy-one years. The wife and mother likewise was seventy-one years of age when she died. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in his political views Mr. Rowe was Democratic. Their children in order of birth were as follows: Georgiana Rigler, who died in Chicago; Minerva James, of Connecticut; Frederick W., of Ottawa, Illinois; Ellen Lowry, deceased; Thomas, whose name initiates this sketch; Elizabeth Ford, of Grand Ridge, LaSalle county; and Mary Jeffries, of Dwight, Illinois.

Thomas Rowe was reared in Connecticut, where he received a fair education in the common schools, and where for one year he was employed in a tack and nail factory. Then came their emigration to Illinois. He was eighteen at that time, and on their settlement here he devoted his energies to assisting his father in work on the farm. He remained on the home farm until 1858, when he thought to try his fortune in Texas, and went to Huntsville, where he made the first brooms manufactured in that state. He was in the south at the time the civil war broke out, and circumstances impelled him to enter the Confederate army, in which he served for a period of three years, being with the forces that operated in Arkansas and Louisiana. At the close of the war, in 1865, he returned to his old home in Illinois and has since been a resident of LaSalle county. He is now the owner of one hundred and seventeen acres of choice farming land, well improved with good house and barn, and under an excellent state of cultivation.

Mr. Rowe was married, April 12, 1868, to Mary E. Read, a native of Saratoga county, New York, and a daughter of Butler and Emeline Read, natives of that county, both now deceased. The fruits of this union were four children—Alice, now the wife of Grant Baker, of Grand Ridge; Frederick, who died in infancy; Emma L., a successful teacher, employed in the Grand Ridge schools; and Jessie B., of South Omaha, Nebraska. The mother of this family died in 1886. She was a most amiable woman, loved by all who knew her, and was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In August, 1890, Mr. Rowe married Mrs. A. D. Hodgeman, widow of Ransom Hodgeman and daughter of Ephraim and Abigail (Lowe) Ray, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Medina county, Ohio, in which county Mrs. Rowe was likewise born. Her parents are still living, being residents of Victoria, Knox county, Illinois. The father is eighty-three years of age, and the mother eighty, and their married life has covered a period of sixty-two years. Both have long been devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church. By her first husband, Mrs. Rowe has five children, namely: Isabelle, wife of C. Hammond, of Victoria, Illinois; Alvin, also of Victoria; Ira E., of Missouri; Carl N., who was a soldier in

the late war with Spain; and Raymond B., at home. Mr. Hodgeman died April 17, 1889. He was a man of sterling integrity and was held in high esteem by the people among whom he lived. He was identified with the Methodist Episcopal church, the Masonic fraternity and the Republican party.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowe are Presbyterians in religious adherency, and politically Mr. Rowe is a Republican. He is a man whose genial hospitality is well known and who has the confidence and high regard of all who have ever in any way been associated with him.

JERRY W. WAKEY.

The prosperous and well-to-do farmer whose name initiates this review, Jerry W. Wakey, is a native of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, and dates his birth August 21, 1859. He is a son of William Wakey, deceased, one of the prominent early settlers and respected citizens of this country. He was born, reared and educated in Germany and came as a young man to the United States, locating shortly afterward in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he married and made permanent settlement. His widow, Elizabeth Wakey, who is still a resident of this county, was born and reared in Perry county, Pennsylvania.

Jerry W. was reared on his father's farm, receiving his education in the public schools, and at home was early taught that honesty and industry form the foundation of all true success. He remained at home, assisting his father in the farm work until he attained his majority. Starting out in life for himself, he was well equipped by careful training, and it was but natural that he should succeed in his operations. He is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, located on section 28, Grand Rapids township, and ranking as one of the best farms in the township, and his residence, which was built in 1896, at a cost of two thousand dollars, is of modern architectural design, and shows by both its interior and exterior surroundings that its owner is not only a prosperous man, but also that he and his family are people of culture and refinement. Among other improvements on his farm may be mentioned the commodious barn and other buildings, and the windmill, which furnishes the power for bringing water from a depth of two hundred feet and supplying it to convenient places for use, in the residence, milkhouse, etc.

Mr. Wakey was married February 3, 1887, to Miss Luemma Woodward, a native of LaSalle county and a daughter of George B. Woodward,

who died in 1892, her mother having passed away in 1867. Mrs. Wakey was educated in Lincoln, Illinois, and is one of a family of two, her brother being J. W. Woodward, of Grand Ridge, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Wakey have one son, Earl Rodner, born June 22, 1892.

Both Mr. Wakey and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, being prominent and active in the same, and for years they have been interested in Sabbath-school work. Politically he is a Republican, and has filled some local offices, such as that of road commissioner, etc. Frank, genial and hospitable, Mr. Wakey has a large acquaintance and a corresponding number of friends.

A. D. SIMON.

The year that witnessed the close of the great civil war in the United States was the year in which the subject of this article saw fit to cast in his lot with our people, and from that time until the present day none of its citizens have been more loyal and patriotic, in word, thought and deed. Thirty-three years have rolled away since Mr. Simon identified himself with the business interests of Ottawa, and during this long period he has maintained an unblemished record for integrity and square dealing.

F. A. Simon, the father of our subject, a native of Cassel, Germany, served in the standing army of the empire much of his active life, winning distinction, and for twenty-seven years held official rank and title. He was a fine musician, and his talent in that line was inherited by his son, A. D., of this sketch. The latter was born in the city of Cassel, Germany, and when of sufficient age entered the public schools. He obtained a liberal education, and paid particular attention to the study of music, in which he became proficient when quite young.

He emigrated to this country in 1860, and in 1865, in partnership with his brother Carl, opened a store in Ottawa where all kinds of pianos and musical instruments were kept for sale. In 1884 A. D. Simon started a store on his own account. Years ago this business had won a foremost place in this department of enterprise in LaSalle county, and this reputation is sturdily maintained by the proprietor. The location is central, at No. 803 LaSalle street, and here may be found many of the leading makes of pianos and organs in a great variety of styles and cases, suited to the differing tastes and requirements of purchasers. High-grade musical instruments of all kinds are kept, and hard to please, indeed, must he be who cannot be suited here.

For over twenty years Mr. Simon has been the organist in the Metho-

dist church of Ottawa, and his love for music increases rather than wanes as he grows older. He stands high in social and fraternal circles and, among others, is connected with the Knights Templars. In politics he is a stanch Republican.

SAMUEL D. COLE.

It is not alone to the lives of the great that we must look for the lessons of life. It will not make a man a great farmer or merchant to emulate the deeds of a great lawyer or general or naval commander. There are more farmers than statesmen, and there always will be, and if it were not so the statesman's occupation would be gone. The life of a successful farmer like Samuel D. Cole of Ottawa, Illinois, is, in detail, important to thousands who will necessarily have to follow in his footsteps more or less closely.

Samuel D. Cole was born on a farm in Tompkins county, New York, March 31, 1821, a son of Joseph and Depsey (Robinson) Cole. His father was a native of France and when young came to the United States, when, after learning and working at the shoemaker's trade, he took up farming in New York, and later in life removed to Indiana, where he died. His mother was a daughter of Andrew Robinson, a well-to-do farmer of Tompkins county, New York, where she was born.

Samuel D. Cole was brought up on a farm, and after he was old enough assisted his father with its work until he attained his majority. He then came west as far as Cleveland, Ohio, where he was employed by a contractor, at teaming, carpentry and any other work there was to be done. He was always looking for a dollar, but he wanted no dollars but honest ones, and was willing to work hard for such. He got ahead a little financially and was married at Cleveland, Ohio, May 15, 1845, to Elizabeth Bell, who was born August 20, 1828, the daughter of Jacob and Sarah Bell, of that city. In that same year he came to Illinois with his young wife, and rented a farm in Vermilion township. In those times this would have been a proposition not without risks to one who, like Mr. Cole, might enter upon it on a cash capital of only twenty-five dollars. It was hazardous, even to that day of small things, but it was a transaction which must be emphasized here as indicating the man's strong, decisive character and unconquerable perseverance. He kept this farm three years and made money on it, and was then able to venture upon the purchase of an eighty-acre farm in the township of Utica, where he began farming and raising stock. He gave much attention to hogs, as he could raise them and get them to market in a short time and turn his small capital over often. As he made money he improved the property and added to it until he

had four hundred acres of choice land, provided with buildings of the best class and responsive to the most perfect cultivation. His stock was of all kinds and of the highest grade.

There came a time when it was no longer necessary for Mr. Cole to attend personally to his farming and stock-raising, and he moved to Ottawa, with the intention of living there retired and contented. But he had been too busy a man for too many years to take readily to a life of ease. He secured control of a boat on the canal, which he ran for five years. He then added one hundred and sixty acres to his farm, where he remained ten years, but finally, in 1875, retired from active agricultural life and moved into Ottawa, where he purchased a tract of eighty acres, where his son Charles carried on gardening until 1892, when he sold it to the Terracotta Manufacturing Company and moved to his present home. He owns eight or ten good houses and two store-houses, the rental and care of which demand much of his time; and he also loans money, but devotes much attention to the supervision of his farming interests.

There have been born to Samuel D. and Elizabeth (Bell) Cole six children: Louisa, who died in infancy; Lydia, widow of Alonzo Tate; Julia B., the wife of Bona Cole, a cousin, and living in Chicago; Albert, living on the Cole farm in Utica township; Charles, a gardener; and Sherman, a carpenter, living in Ottawa. Mr. Cole was formerly an old-line Whig, but has been a stanch Republican since the organization of the party. He is a member of Occidental Lodge, No. 40, Free and Accepted Masons, and of Ottawa Chapter, No. 37, Royal Arch Masons. He is widely known as a successful business man and his frugality and industry and their well deserved reward should be a shining lesson to the young men of his acquaintance.

ENOCH H. PEDERSEN.

Enoch H. Pedersen, of Sheridan, Mission township, owes his success to his own efforts, his energy, industry and laudable ambition being the elements whereby he has won a place among the substantial citizens of LaSalle county.

He was born in Leland, this county, June 14, 1861, a son of Peter H. and Lavina (Hanson) Pedersen, both of whom were natives of Norway. His grandfather was Halvar Pedersen, who with his family, consisting of a wife and four children, emigrated to this country in 1843. A settlement was made in Mission township, this county, and four years later they removed to Leland, where the grandfather spent his last days. He was

E. H. Pedersen.

a farmer by occupation but spent his last years in retirement. Peter H. Pedersen entered the ministry of the Norwegian Lutheran church in early manhood, but after some years devoted to that work he was obliged to discontinue preaching on account of failing health. Subsequently he engaged in merchandising in Leland for seven years. He was married in this county, to Lavina Hanson, who died in 1866, while his death occurred in 1873. They left three children, who are still living, namely: Enoch H.; George M., of Yorkville, Illinois; and Minnie, the wife of Benjamin Johnson, of Cambridge, Iowa. A son, Noah, died in 1865. In 1839, when Mr. Pedersen's mother was three years of age, her parents settled in LaSalle county, near Brumback creek, a few miles north of Ottawa, and here they resided until the following year, when they moved to Adams township in the same county, where many of the family still reside. For a second wife Peter H. Pedersen married Bertha Vold, and by this marriage there was one child, which died in infancy.

Mr. Pedersen, of this review, spent the days of his boyhood and youth in Leland, and when nineteen years of age came to Sheridan. He acquired his preliminary education in the schools of the former place and also pursued his studies in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in Keokuk, Iowa. Afterward he engaged in clerking in a general store two years, and then one year in a drug-store in Leland; and on coming to Sheridan he accepted a clerical position in a general store, which he filled for six years. He then embarked in general merchandising on his own account, continuing in that line of business for twelve years, during which time he had several partners and conducted stores at the towns of Sheridan, Dayton and Yorkville, Illinois. In the fall of 1898 he embarked in the hardware business in Sheridan and was successfully engaged in this line of business until the fall of 1899, when he sold his stock.

In 1885 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Pedersen and Miss Rose McClary, of Sheridan, the daughter of Thomas and Susan McClary, early settlers of Mission township. They have two sons: Pierre M., born in 1886; and McClary W., born in 1890. Socially Mr. Pedersen is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he is a staunch Republican, having supported that party since attaining his majority. He keeps well informed on the issues of the day and does all in his power to promote the growth and insure the success of his party. He has served as school treasurer of Mission township for ten years, as alderman of Sheridan for one term, and in April, 1898, he was appointed by John C. Ames to the office of deputy United States marshal, in which capacity he is now serving most acceptably.

In the beginning of his business career Mr. Pedersen did not have

wealth to aid him. His reliance has been placed upon the more substantial qualities of perseverance, untiring enterprise, resolute purpose and commendable zeal; and withal his actions have been guided by an honesty of purpose that none have questioned.

ISRAEL C. COPE.

A prominent figure in the annals of Streator is Israel C. Cope, who has achieved distinction in numerous important public positions, acquitting himself of the duties devolving upon him with zeal, fidelity and promptness, and meriting the high enconiums which have been accorded him. The following facts relative to himself and his honorable career will possess much interest to his hosts of admirers, here and elsewhere.

The Cope family was established in America by one Oliver Cope, a member of the Society of Friends, who accompanied William Penn on one of his voyages from England to the vicinity of Philadelphia. Israel C. is a son of Eli and Susan (Shotwell) Cope, and a grandson of James Dickinson and Rebecca (Cooke) Cope, and of John Shotwell, the latter of New Jersey, while the Copes were natives of the Keystone state.

The birth of Israel C. Cope took place in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1849, he being one of ten children, five of whom were sons. He spent his youthful days in his native county, where he gained an excellent education. Later he pursued his studies in Bethany College, West Virginia. In 1871 he decided to try his fortunes in the west and went to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he spent two years. In 1873 he came to Streator and secured employment as a clerk, and subsequently he embarked in the drug business upon his own account. He met with success in his financial undertakings, and thoroughly merits the high esteem in which he is held by those who have had business dealings with him.

Though he has loyally adhered to the Republican party since becoming a voter, Mr. Cope has been nothing of a politician in the sense of seeking public honors. His influence, however, in local circles has been materially felt and acknowledged, and his appointment as the postmaster of Streator, under President Harrison's administration, gave general satisfaction. Later he was appointed deputy United States marshal of the northern district of Illinois, in which capacity he is still acting. For the past nine years he has been the Illinois state secretary of the American Protective Tariff League.

On the last day of May, in the centennial year, Mr. Cope married Miss Fannie O. Ames, a daughter of Isaac and Aurelia (Mooar) Ames, of Streator.

They have a son and daughter—Jessie O. and Elmer A. Mr. and Mrs. Cope have an attractive home in this town, and are surrounded by the numerous comforts and luxuries which bespeak true refinement in the possessors, as indicating love for the beautiful.

Socially, Mr. Cope is a member in high standing in the Masonic order. He belongs to Streator Lodge, No. 602, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M., of Streator; and Ottawa Commandery No. 10, K. T.

ANDREW J. REDMEN.

The subject of this sketch furnishes an illustration of the self-made man. Coming to Illinois and locating in LaSalle county more than four decades ago, without means, his only resource being his pluck and energy, Andrew Jackson Redmen worked his way to the front, and to-day he occupies a representative position among the leading farmers of Farm Ridge township.

Mr. Redmen is a native of Preble county, Ohio, and was born December 14, 1835. The Redmens were among the early settlers of this country and occupied prominent positions in New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia at an early day. John Redmen, the grandfather of Andrew J., was a soldier in some of the early wars. His son Benjamin Redmen married Miss Elizabeth House, a native of West Virginia and a descendant of German ancestry. After their marriage they moved west to Preble county, Ohio, where they reared their family and passed the rest of their lives. Their children, seven in number, were named as follows: Mary Catherine, deceased; Ellen Caroline; Andrew Jackson; Sarah Jane, deceased; Susan; one child who died in infancy; and William. The father died at the age of fifty-nine years. He was a farmer all his life, and politically was a Democrat.

Andrew J. was reared on his father's farm in Preble county, attending the subscription schools of the neighborhood, assisting in the farm work at home, and early having impressed upon his mind lessons of honesty and industry. Leaving home at the age of twenty-one, in 1856, he came to Illinois and found employment in LaSalle county. A few years later he returned to Ohio and was married, and in 1860 came back to Illinois and settled in Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, where he has since lived and prospered. When he landed here the second time his capital consisted of thirty-three dollars in money and an abundance of energy, and his success is due wholly to his own perseverance and good management. He is now the owner of four hundred and forty acres of fine land, comprised in

four well improved farms, and is ranked with the leading farmers of the township.

Mr. Redmen was married in Preble county, Ohio, to Miss Sarah Bunger, a native of that state and a daughter of Samuel and Eva (Lock) Bunger. They have eight children, namely: Mrs. Eathlinda Rutter, of western Nebraska; James P., who owns one hundred and sixty acres of land and is engaged in farming in Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county; John Perry, of Webster county, Iowa; Samuel, on his father's farm; William F., on Deer Park farm; Mrs. Eva H. Provins, of Gardner, Illinois; and Andrew J., Jr., and Leroy at home.

Mr. Redmen has always supported the Republican party and has served officially in several local offices. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. As a citizen he stands high in the estimation of the people of his community.

HENRY F. HOWLAND.

In reviewing the life history of Henry F. Howland, one of the leading and wealthy citizens of Streator, one is inevitably impressed with what he, who was a few years ago a poor man, has accomplished. From his boyhood industry and diligent application to whatever task he had before him have been among his marked traits of character, and this concentration of his energy to the working out of some particular aim is one of the secrets of his success.

The father of our subject, Shubal Howland, was born at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and during the greater part of his mature life he was engaged in merchandising. The mother, whose maiden name was Mary Godfrey, was born at Blackstone, Rhode Island, and passed the most of her life in her native state.

Henry F. Howland was born in Seekonk, Massachusetts, May 5, 1839. When he was quite young his parents removed to Rhode Island, and there the lad attended the public schools until he was about fifteen years of age. He then obtained employment in the great Lonsdale Manufacturing Company's mills, at Lonsdale, Rhode Island, where he continued to render faithful service for some fourteen years.

In 1870 the desire to see the west, with a view to making his permanent abode there, led to his coming to LaSalle county, and, having some capital, he invested it in a furniture and undertaking establishment at Wilmington, where he remained eleven years. During this time he was always at the front in furthering the development and improvement of

his home city. He served two years as city clerk and six years as a member of the city council, and was also solicited a number of times to accept the office of mayor, but declined further honor in that line. Becoming acquainted with Daniel Heenan, of Streator, through that gentleman's persuasion he was induced, in 1880, to remove his business to Streator, where he has met with even greater success, and numbers among his patrons the best families of the place. In 1891 he erected a fine, substantial three-story brick block, forty-five feet by ninety feet in dimensions, and all of the room thus afforded is used by him in the various departments of his prosperous business. He carries a large and well selected stock of household furnishings, carpets, furniture and general supplies. A fine line of caskets and funeral equipments are to be found in that department of the enterprise, and a good hearse and horses complete what is considered one of the best undertaking outfits in the county. Mr. Howland's reputation in his special lines of business has extended over the southern and central part of LaSalle county, and his record for fairness and square dealing is unsurpassed.

In 1859 Mr. Howland wedded Miss Mary Carlin, a daughter of John Carlin, of Lonsdale, Rhode Island. Five children were born to this worthy couple, namely: Mary, wife of Nicholas Casey, a retired farmer of Streator; Lydia, who is at home; Henry J., who is associated in business with his father; John F., now employed by the Santa Fe Railroad Company; Lydia, who is at home; and Lucy, who is still pursuing her studies at the Academy of the Sacred Heart, Chicago.

In politics Mr. Howland is a stanch Republican. For six years he served as a member of the Streator school board, favoring progressive methods and better educational facilities for the rising generation. Socially he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. He owns his attractive home and other valuable property here, and has an assured competence for his declining years, all of which is the result of his executive ability and good judgment in business affairs.

J. J. WAFER.

Unusual merit and stability of character must be possessed by the young lad who is thrown upon his own resources at an age when he should be in the school-room, yet who bravely fights the battle for a livelihood in which many of his elders are worsted, and eventually comes off victor over circumstances. This is found to be the case in the history of

J. J. Wafer, who for the past five years has been engaged in business in Ottawa.

He is a native of St. Louis, his birth having taken place in that city some thirty-four years ago. His father, John Wafer, now deceased, was a son of the Emerald Isle, but in his young manhood he emigrated to the United States, and taking up his residence in St. Louis there married Miss Elizabeth Early. In 1876 they removed to Denver, Colorado, where they dwelt for years.

J. J. Wafer had but limited educational advantages, as he commenced serving an apprenticeship at the plumbing, gas and steam-fitting business when he was but eleven years of age. He made rapid progress in the craft, and at last was promoted to the position of foreman for the business house of W. W. Judd, of Denver, in whose employ he continued for eight years. He is a practical workman, understanding thoroughly every branch of his line of business, and all contracts awarded him are executed with a promptness and ability which make friends of all of his patrons. Since locating in Ottawa his place of business has been at No. 104 Main street, where may be found a complete stock of plumbers' supplies. He has succeeded in gaining a large and remunerative patronage, and his outlook is most promising.

Fraternally Mr. Wafer is a Knight of the Globe, and a member of the I. O. M. A., and politically he is independent. In 1890 Mr. Wafer married Miss Ella Hayne, a daughter of William Hayne. Mrs. Wafer is a native of Ottawa, and is a lady of liberal mental and social attainments. A little son and daughter, Willie and Esther, bless their happy home, where is represented the acme of comfort and culture.

C. E. FARNHAM, M. D.

Dr. C. E. Farnham, of Grand Ridge, Illinois, is one of the prominent young physicians in LaSalle county, and the following brief sketch of his life is appropriately given in this connection. He was born in Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, Illinois, February 16, 1865, son of William F. Farnham, a well known and highly respected citizen of the township. The latter is of New England birth and ancestry, born, reared and educated in Maine. He came to Illinois when a young man, locating in LaSalle county, and was here married to Miss Sarah Hodgson, daughter of Eli Hodgson, deceased, a prominent early settler of the county. In 1870 William F. Farnham and wife went to Missouri, locating in Vernon county, at Shell City, where they have since lived. They have the following named children:

C. E., whose name introduces this sketch; William G.; Warren E., a teacher, and Mattie E.

C. E. Farnham received his education chiefly at Shell City, Missouri, and at the age of eighteen commenced teaching, which occupation he followed for a few years. In the meantime he chose the medical profession for his life work, and regularly took up the study of medicine in 1887, under the instructions of Dr. H. C. Jarvis, a well known and successful physician of Shell City, with whom he remained one year. In 1888 he entered Bennett Eclectic College, in Chicago, from which institution he graduated, being one of a class of seventy-five members. Immediately after his graduation, in 1890, he located at Harding, LaSalle county, Illinois, where he began his professional career and practiced two years. From Harding he came, in 1892, to Grand Ridge, his present location, where he soon built up a good practice and where his success as a physician and his kindly and genial manner have brought him into favor with the people among whom he lives.

Dr. Farnham was married in 1890, at Osceola, Clark county, Iowa, to Miss Rosa Sutton, an accomplished young woman, who was reared in LaSalle county, being the daughter of William and Martha Sutton. Dr. and Mrs. Farnham have one child, Edna M.

Politically and religiously Dr. Farnham clings to the faith in which he was reared, being a Republican and a Methodist. In church matters he takes an active interest, and at this writing is steward of the Methodist church at Grand Ridge. Fraternally he is identified with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, being a past chancellor in the former. Personally Dr. Farnham is a man of fine physique, weighing two hundred pounds, and in manner he is frank and genial.

AARON S. WILKINSON.

The gentleman whose name we are pleased to place at the head of this memoir,—the late Aaron S. Wilkinson, of Allen township, LaSalle county, Illinois,—was a justice of the peace and a veteran of the civil war. The record of his life, briefly given, is as follows:

Aaron S. Wilkinson was born in Auburn, New York, July 7, 1828, son of Aaron Wilkinson, a native of Scott's Plain, New York, and his wife, Polly (Wilkins) Wilkinson, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. Aaron and Polly Wilkinson were the parents of a large family, whose names in order of birth are: Mrs. Sophia Wisner, of Hanson, Nebraska; Permelia Linsley, of New York; James, an early settler of Allen township, LaSalle

county, Illinois, is deceased; Polly Granger, deceased; Eleanor Caldwell, deceased; and Cornelia Holcomb, deceased.

In his native state Aaron S. Wilkinson was reared and educated. He had been twice married. His first wife was before marriage Miss Maria Babcock, she being a native of Branch county, Michigan, and daughter of Frank Babcock, of that state. The fruits of their union were four children, viz.: Edna, wife of James Ford, of Ransom, Illinois; James, of Crystal Falls, Michigan; Frank, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; and Ambrose B., who died at the age of twenty-eight, leaving a wife and three children. Mrs. Maria Wilkinson died June 23, 1885. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and was a most estimable woman, loved by all who knew her. In September, 1886, Mr. Wilkinson was married to Mrs. Lovisa Wilkinson, who is the daughter of Bourbon Matthews, a native of Virginia. By this marriage there are two children: Irma and Bertha, aged ten and three years respectively.

Mr. Wilkinson's war record began in September, 1862, when he enlisted in Company B, Eighth Michigan Cavalry, under Captain Miles Warren and Colonel Stockton, and he was made first lieutenant of his company. He was with his command, participating in the engagements in which it took part, until June 10, 1864, when he was honorably discharged, and thereupon returned home.

Politically Mr. Wilkinson was always known as an ardent Republican. For twelve years he served as a justice of the peace and a notary public. Fraternally he was identified with the Masonic Order, and was a member of Francis M. Lane Post, No. 247, G. A. R., having been its first commander and being senior vice-commander at the time of his death. Mr. Wilkinson was an accomplished musician, having taught music for over forty years, and for some years past was the leader of the Methodist church choir. November 3, 1899, Mr. Wilkinson passed to his reward, leaving a large circle of friends to mourn his demise. He leaves his wife and their two children and two children by his former marriage to mourn his loss. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Ransom.

WILLIAM A. JEFFERY.

During the years 1895 and 1896 William A. Jeffery was the efficient and popular chairman of the Republican township central committee at Ottawa. He is considered one of the most loyal workers in the party in this locality, and, at the same time, he is not an office-seeker, never having had aspirations in that direction. He firmly believes in the usefulness and

wisdom of the party principles and seeks to promulgate its beneficent doctrines. In the order of the Knights of Pythias he is an esteemed member, and at present he occupies the honored position of major of the second battalion of the Uniformed Rank.

For the past twelve or thirteen years Mr. Jeffery has been a resident of Ottawa. He is engaged in contracting and building and has his business office at No. 325 Madison street. Many of the best houses of the town have been erected by him, or under his direction, and examples of his handicraft are to be seen upon every side. Upright and honorable in all his transactions, faithful in the carrying out of his contracts, whether verbal or written, he justly ranks high among the business men of this place.

Thomas Jeffery, the father of our subject, was born in New York state, and was of English descent. He married a Miss Mary Andrews, who passed to her reward in 1893, and to this worthy couple nine children were born. All of the children, save William A., are residents of Michigan. In order of birth they are named as follows: William A.; Leanora; John; Milo; Lillie; Elton; Edward; Hattie; and Ivia. The father has made agriculture the main business of his life, and in this he has been quite successful. In his political adherency he is a Democrat.

The birth of William A. Jeffery took place on the old homestead in Wayne county, Michigan, September 27, 1850. He received the benefits of a good common and high school education, and was thus qualified for the battle of life. Subsequently to his graduation in the Howell high school he commenced learning the carpenter's trade, and in 1882 he came to Illinois, where he has since been busily engaged in his chosen vocation.

On New Year's day, 1878, a marriage ceremony performed in Marseilles, Illinois, united the destinies of William A. Jeffery and Miss Florence Irwin, a daughter of Richard Irwin, ex-county superintendent. Three sons and a daughter grace the union of our subject and wife, namely: Mary, Amos, Ray and Frank.

DAVID KROUSE.

David Krouse, of Ottawa, Illinois, is a native of the Keystone state, and dates his birth in Luzerne county on the 27th of September, 1846. His forefathers were of German origin and were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania. His father, Joseph Krouse, married a Miss Huthmaker, and to them were born seven children,—all sons.

David's boyhood days were passed on his father's farm and in attendance at the public school, and when he was fifteen the great civil war broke

out. The next year, in 1862, at the age of sixteen, he enlisted as a member of Company G, One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Captain B. G. Cooper. His army service covered a period of ten months, during which time he took part in the battles of Suffolk and Deep Creek, Virginia. He was then honorably discharged, and returned home and resumed farming.

In 1864 he served an apprenticeship with Charles Roth, of Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, in the gunsmith's trade, remaining with him three years, and in 1867 he came to Ottawa, working at his trade with H. P. Drunker for three years and the same length of time with D. S. Ebersol. Since then has been in business for himself.

At the age of twenty-six years Mr. Krouse married Miss Sarah A. Arnold, also a native of Pennsylvania, and their union has been blessed in the birth of three children, viz.: Jesse, Benjamin Franklin and Alice. Benjamin F. was in the late war with Spain, a member of Company C, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Politically, Mr. Krouse is identified with the Republican party, and by appointment filled for some time the office of receiver of the port at Ottawa. Socially he maintains membership in the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias, in which organization he was elected first lieutenant and afterward captain.

LEVI CLAY.

For sixteen years Levi Clay has lived retired from the active cares and labors to which his prime was given, his home being in Streator during this period of enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. Energetic and progressive, he made his own way in the world from boyhood, and won a position and competence and the esteem of all who know him.

Levi Clay comes from the same ancestral stock as does the distinguished Kentucky statesman, Cassius M. Clay. He is a son of David and Catherine (Harter) Clay, and a grandson of David Clay, Sr. His maternal grandfather, George Harter, was one of the pioneers of Stark county, Ohio, and the latter's wife, whose maiden name was Bowman, came from Baden, Germany, in 1725, as some old records state.

Our subject's father was a native of Pennsylvania, and his marriage to Miss Catherine Harter, in 1809, was the first wedding in that county. Ten children were born to David and Catherine Clay, and of this number eight lived to maturity,—George, whose location since 1836 is unknown; David died at Plainfield, Illinois, leaving a wife with five children, three sons and two daughters; Jacob died in Darke county, Ohio, leaving seven children,

one son and six daughters; John, with his wife and children, one son and five daughters, lives in California; Catherine and husband died in Stark county, Ohio, about 1842, leaving an infant son, Abraham Miller, who is at this time a minister of the gospel at Alliance, Ohio; Solomon Clay, of Paulding county, Ohio, having been married four times, has a wife and ten children; Polly married John Ditsler, of Summit county, Ohio, and died there about 1849; and Levi is the subject proper of this sketch.

Our subject's mother became the wife of George Henny after the death of her first husband, and by her second union had one daughter, Priscilla, now a resident of Fonda, Iowa, and wife of Jacob Sanders.

Born in 1825, upon the parental homestead, in Stark county, Ohio, Levi Clay early learned the proper management of a farm. His education was limited to an occasional three-months term of school, and, as he was young when his father died, the cares of life fell upon his shoulders when he was a mere boy. He remained in his native state until 1844, when he came to this county, with but seven dollars and an ax to start with. The seven dollars was stolen, leaving only the ax! For several years he resided in Ottawa or vicinity. In 1846 he enlisted in the First Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service in the Mexican war, and saw some hard fighting, taking part in the battle of Buena Vista and other engagements. Upon his return he worked at plastering in Ottawa for a year and a half.

In 1848 he was married, and, settling upon a farm in Livingston county, in the vicinity of Streator, cultivated the place many years, greatly improved it, and in the course of time added more until his possessions amounted to three hundred and ninety-one acres. His buildings and everything about his homestead were kept in fine condition, and the supervision of the practical, painstaking owner was apparent to the most casual observer. In the raising and feeding of cattle and hogs he was quite successful, realizing a large income from this source alone.

More than half a century ago, in 1848, Mr. Clay married Miss Cordelia M. Ecker, of LaSalle county. Her parents, John and Lucy (Roberts) Ecker, were natives of New York state, and at an early day became residents of Illinois. Mrs. Clay was summoned to the silent land in 1895. The only son, Cassius M., is now occupying the family homestead in Livingston county. He makes a specialty of breeding fine Morgan horses and Jersey cattle, and is a progressive, wide-awake business man and agriculturist. He married Miss Barbara E. Zeigler, daughter of William Zeigler, of Livingston county, in 1874, and four children bless their home,—Ora M., Edward C., Avis B. and Mabel R.

The only daughter of our subject is Lucetta J., wife of William M. Bentley, of Osage township, LaSalle county. She has three children,

namely: Ola M., wife of Edgar J. Hakes; Minnie E., wife of R. Bailey; and Arlie M.

In his early life Mr. Clay was affiliated with the Whig party, and upon the founding of the Republican party he joined its ranks and has been faithful to its principles from that day to the present. His career has been marked by rigid integrity, and to his posterity he will leave the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and record.

AARON KLEIBER.

Aaron Kleiber was born in Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, August 25, 1833, and in this county he has thus far spent his life, devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits, his present location being in Bruce township.

Mr. Kleiber traces his ancestry along the agnatic line to the French. His grandfather, John Henry Kleiber, was born in France, and early in life became a resident of this country, living for some years in Pennsylvania. In Northumberland county, Pennsylvania, Joseph Kleiber, the father of Aaron, was born, and in Licking county, Ohio, he was reared and married, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Daniels. In 1830 the young couple left Ohio and came out to Illinois, settling in LaSalle county. They became the parents of eight children, namely: Mary, Margaret A., Jonathan, Malissa, Aaron, James, William and Stephen. All of this number are now deceased except Aaron and Stephen, and the last named resides on the old homestead, in Rutland township. The father died at the age of seventy-one years. He had lived for nearly forty-two years in this county and had not only seen the land developed from its primitive state into fine farms, with substantial buildings thereon, but also had done his part toward bringing about this change. Politically he was a Democrat, and both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Aaron Kleiber grew up on his father's farm, his boyhood days being spent not unlike other farmer boys of the neighborhood, and after reaching manhood he purchased a farm in Allen township, three and one-half miles southwest from Ransom. He now has a well cultivated and valuable farm of two hundred acres, and is ranked with the prosperous and influential farmers of his township and county.

February 20, 1856, he was married to Miss Rosanna McKernan, a native of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, and a daughter of Captain J. McKernan, an old and well known citizen of this county. Captain McKernan was born in Ohio, son of John and Polly (Stowder)

McKernan, and in his native state was married to Miss Mary Cramer, daughter of Henry Cramer. They had a family of nine children, namely: Rosanna, now Mrs. Kleiber; Mrs. Candis Ackerman, of Iowa; Ann Eliza Gochanour, of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county; Samuel; Celanda Lockwood, of Streator, Illinois; Charles, of Iowa; Augusta McKernan, of Streator; and George and Ralph, deceased. The mother now resides with her daughter, Miss Augusta McKernan, at Streator. The father died at the age of sixty-three years. He was a man of prominence in the county, was a Republican, and filled a number of political offices. His military title was earned during the civil war. He was captain of a company in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was held as prisoner at Huntsville for some time during the war.

Mr. and Mrs. Kleiber have had eleven children, five of whom are living, as follows: James, who married Miss Harriet Cramer, resides in Bruce township; Mary, wife of Fred Zigler, of Manville, Illinois; Joseph, at home; Elma, wife of Alfred Patton, of Allen township, this county; and Grace, wife of Perry Snyder, of LaSalle county. The other members of the family died in childhood,—Stephen, Milton, Candace, Mabel, Maud and Myrtle.

Mr. Kleiber is identified with a number of fraternal organizations, and politically he gives his support to the Democratic party. Honorable and upright in all his dealings, and frank and genial in manner, he enjoys high standing among his neighbors and many friends.

HENRY SMEETON.

Some forty-four years have passed since this worthy citizen of Ottawa cast in his lot with the inhabitants of this little city, and he enjoys the distinction of being one of the oldest business men in the place. His fellow townsmen esteem him highly, and his reputation for integrity and uprightness is something of which he may justly be proud, as it is well merited.

The parents of Henry Smeeton were William and Jane (Berridge) Smeeton, of Devonshire, England. Thomas, a brother of William Smeeton, was an inventor, and an excellent business man. He operated a large factory, where seamless undervests were manufactured. John Smeeton, a relative, was the keeper of the famous Eddystone Lighthouse, which is situated off the south coast of England. William Smeeton was a manufacturer of Brussels carpets. Both he and his wife were members of the Congregational church. Of their five children John and Jane died in England; Harriet is the widow of Robert Scott, and is a resident of Chicago, Illinois, and George still lives in England.

Henry Smeeton was born April 2, 1825, in Northamptonshire, England. His boyhood was happily passed in the beautiful country of his birth, and when he was quite young his enjoyment of music became marked. He made a flute all by himself, and when he had learned to play it he set his heart on possessing a violin, and this, too, came to him in time, and he mastered that instrument. He has never lost his love for music, and many of the happiest hours of his life have been spent in this pastime.

On reaching man's estate Mr. Smeeton concluded to settle in the United States. Sailing from Liverpool, he had a long, tedious voyage of five weeks and two days' duration. Proceeding westward, he arrived in Chicago, then a small city, bearing little promise of the great future in store for her, and there he found employment as a carpenter. Later he became interested in the manufacture of roofing, and has since given much of his time to the development of this line of business. In 1855 he came to Ottawa, and established himself in the manufacture of various articles of hardware, household utensils, roofing, metallic shingles, etc. By judicious methods of transacting his business affairs, and by industry and well applied energy, he built up a remunerative patronage and amassed a competence. Politically he has always been a strong Republican, and keeps thoroughly posted in the history of the world, current events, and matters affecting the welfare of this great republic, of which he is a devoted son and a true patriot. Like his venerated parents, he attaches due importance to religion and everything else which tends to develop the better part of man's nature, and for years he has been a member of the Congregational church.

The marriage of Mr. Smeeton and Miss Eliza Crowden was celebrated in 1850. Their three daughters are Susan, wife of D. B. Snow, a leading attorney of Ottawa; Louisa, who married Rev. Mr. Paisley, a Presbyterian minister; and Anne, wife of William Paisley, now the business manager in the factory established here by our subject. Mrs. Anne Paisley is a very successful and popular musician and teacher of the art, and apparently inherited her talent from her father. He looks on the bright side of things, and by his genuine optimism sheds an atmosphere of cheer and pleasantness wherever he goes.

AMMON S. JOHNSON.

Ammon S. Johnson, who resides on his farm on section 3, Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born in the township in which he lives, October 6, 1861, the son of Ole Johnson, an old and well known citizen of this county, now deceased, who was born and educated in Norway.

Ole Johnson came to America in 1849. In 1855 he was married to

Miss Martha Hill, a woman possessing both education and refinement, and who, like himself, was born in Norway. Three children were born to them, a son and two daughters, namely: Ammon S., the subject of this review; Serena, wife of William Harris, of South Dakota; and Bertha, wife of Neal J. Hone, of this township. Ole Johnson died in October, 1896. His widow survives him and is now sixty-three years of age. She is a member of the Lutheran church, with which he likewise was identified.

Ammon S. Johnson was educated in the public schools and at the State Normal School, and since he became a man has been engaged in the occupation in which he was reared, that of farming. He located on his present farm in 1886. This place comprises three hundred and sixty acres on section 3, Otter Creek township, and among its improvements are a beautiful modern residence. Its large barns, granary, well kept fences, etc., and its well cultivated fields, together with the attractive home, are all indicative of the prosperity which has attended the efforts of the owner.

Mr. Johnson was married February 17, 1886, to Miss Frances Horn, who was born and reared in LaSalle county, daughter of Francis Horn, one of the old settlers of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have one child, a son, William A., now ten years of age.

Politically Mr. Johnson has always advocated the principles of the Republican party, and has served officially in several local capacities. He has been a member of the school board for nine years, has been township clerk four years, and has twice served as township collector. He is a man in the prime of life, frank and genial in manner, well posted on all the topics of the day,—in short, one of the "live" men of the township.

GRANT C. STEBBINS.

This gentleman, the present mayor of Marseilles, Illinois, is a man of large public spirit, closely identified with all the business interests of the town, and generally and favorably known throughout the county and state as a business man and politician. He was born in the town of Manlius, LaSalle county, March 27, 1862, and is a son of Burr and Dency (Mullen) Stebbins. His youth and early manhood were spent on the old homestead, but at the age of twenty he entered the business college at Dixon, Illinois, where he developed his naturally keen insight of the business world.

In 1883 he left school and his native state for the west, and while in the employ of the Sante Fe Railroad Company engaged in the real-estate business in Kansas and Nebraska, handling thousands of acres of rich agricultural lands. At the expiration of seven years he returned to Marseilles

and opened a real-estate and insurance office, and now represents one of the largest insurance agencies in northern Illinois. He represented the Cincinnati Underwriters' Insurance Company as general agent for the west for over four years, having full charge of the state, with over one hundred agents. He has built up an excellent business, both in the insurance line and in the real-estate department. He is a man of keen foresight and executive force, of marked energy and sound judgment, and is seldom at error in regard to his opinion either of men or lands. He has a good stock farm in Brookfield township and other investments in the west.

In 1888 Mr. Stebbins was married to Miss Kate Kritchfield, of Wakeeney, Kansas, a daughter of Joseph Kritchfield, a prominent citizen of that place. Three children have been born to the union: Dencie E., Gladys B., and James LeRay. The family have a pleasant home on West Clark street, where their cordial hospitality is extended to a large circle of friends.

Mr. Stebbins is a Republican in politics, always having been an active worker in the party. He is a broad-minded, public-spirited man, and has spent freely of his time and money for the promotion of his city's prosperity, and as a testimony to his merit was elected to the office of mayor of the city last spring, by a very large majority of the votes of the people.

WALTER L. ROSS.

Several years ago Walter L. Ross became identified with the interests of the flourishing town of Streator, and, being connected with the railroad corporation as general agent, is well known to the traveling public of this locality. Strictly attentive to his duties, prompt and reliable, and thoroughly trustworthy, he is highly esteemed by his employers, and at the same time his genial manner and courteous treatment of all with whom he has dealings make him popular.

Born in Bloomington, Illinois, January 1, 1865, our subject is a son of A. S. and Margaret (Clark) Ross, natives of Somerset county, Pennsylvania, and Frankfort, Kentucky, respectively. The paternal grandfather of Walter L. was James Ross, and his maternal grandfather bore the name of John Clark. An early settler in Bloomington, A. S. Ross was engaged in the hardware business there for many years, and was considered one of the representative citizens of the place.

The boyhood and youth of Walter L. Ross were spent at his birthplace, his education being obtained in the common and high schools of Bloomington. Upon the completion of his course of study he entered the employ

of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Pontiac, Illinois, and a year later began working for the Central Union Telephone Company. Since 1882 he has been connected with the Wabash Railroad Company, as a clerk and telegraph operator and in other capacities. During the first two years of this service he was stationed at Pontiac, then was transferred to Streator, and acted as chief clerk here for a year. He was next sent to Forest, Illinois, where he held a position in the office of the train dispatcher for some time. Returning to Streator, he became the agent for the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa, and the Wabash Railroads, and in 1896 he took charge of the entire passenger and freight business of the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad Company at this point. He has been prosperous, as he eminently deserves, and from time to time has invested his carefully husbanded means in real estate in Streator.

In the social circles of this town Mr. Ross occupies a prominent place. He is the president of the Haynes Coal Company, and is a member of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias. Politically he favors the platform of the Republican party, and uses his ballot on behalf of its nominees. On the 22d of November, 1888, Mr. Ross and Miss Kate Cox, a daughter of J. N. Cox, deceased, of Streator, were united in marriage, and two children grace their home, namely: Mildred K. and George Sidney. Mrs. Ross is a lady of excellent education and general attainments, and, with her husband, enjoys the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances.

BURR STEBBINS.

The inevitable law of destiny accords to tireless energy and industry a successful career, and there is no other path that leads to prosperity save that of persistent and well directed effort. It was in this way that Burr Stebbins became one of the substantial citizens of LaSalle county, where he located in pioneer days, becoming one of the leading representatives of the agricultural interests of this section of the state. He was born in Chautauqua county, New York, on the 3d of January, 1831, his parents being Josiah and Eliza (Case) Stebbins. His father was born in the Empire state and his mother was a native of Connecticut, her birth occurring in Unabilla, in 1802. When seventeen years of age she removed to western New York, where she married Josiah Stebbins. The Stebbins family is of English origin, but was probably founded in America at an early period in the history of the country.

Burr Stebbins spent the first eight years of his life in New York and then accompanied his parents on their removal to Michigan in 1839. There

he remained until 1854, when he became a resident of LaSalle county, locating in Manlius township, where he improved a new farm, transforming the wild lands into richly cultivated fields. As time passed and his financial resources increased he added to his property until the old homestead comprised three hundred and sixteen acres of the choice prairie land which has made the farms of Illinois justly celebrated throughout the Union. He made excellent improvements upon the place, built good fences, erected substantial buildings, and secured all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm. He was a man of great energy, and his diligence and perseverance brought him gratifying financial returns. In 1886, desiring to lay aside the more arduous duties of farm life, he removed to Marseilles, where he spent his remaining days.

In July, 1859, Mr. Stebbins was united in marriage to Miss Dency Mullen, of Morristown, New Jersey, the fourth daughter of William and Abigail (Crane) Mullen. She was born in Morristown, November 3, 1835, and by her marriage became the mother of four children, namely: Grant C., a prominent real-estate and insurance agent of Marseilles; Everett J., deceased April 12, 1899; Cora F., a talented elocutionist, living with her mother; and Delia, wife of Eugene D. Allen, a pharmacist, of Marseilles.

Mr. Stebbins was a Republican of the most pronounced type, and before the organization of the party he voted the Whig ticket. He served for some time as a member of the city council of Marseilles, and gave an earnest and conscientious support to all measures and movements which he believed would result to the benefit of the city. He passed away April 17, 1894, at the age of sixty-three years, and many friends, as well as his immediate family, deeply mourned his loss. He left to his wife and children the priceless heritage of an untarnished name, for his life had ever been characterized by fidelity to duty and by faithfulness to every trust reposed in him. His widow is still occupying the family home on Washington street, and is a lady held in high esteem by all who know her.

RICHARD FARNSWORTH.

The spirit of self-reliance and independence so universally prevails in the United States that it is a matter of congratulation to the average man when he can truly affirm that he has been the architect of his own fortune,—that he is indebted to no one for the prosperity which at last crowns his labors. Though success does not smile upon many who are thoroughly deserving, it is a well established fact that the undeserving rarely win riches and position. R. Farnsworth, who is well and favorably known

in Ottawa and LaSalle county, may be styled a self-made man, and the recital of his history may prove an incentive to others.

His grandparents, Abraham and Sarah (Smith) Farnsworth, were natives of Yorkshire, England. His father, Robert Farnsworth, was born in 1822 in Yorkshire. When he was four years of age he was brought by his parents to Belleville, Ontario. He devoted his life to agricultural pursuits and passed his declining years at the home of our subject and his sister, Mrs. Sarah Peck. For a long period he was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for years served as clerk of the congregation with which he was connected. His wife, Betsy, a daughter of Asa Wilcox, departed this life in 1866, in Ontario, and of their six children five survive, namely: Richard; Sarah, wife of Henry Peck; David, a resident of Ottawa; Robert, and J. C., of Ottawa. Asa died when a child, and Robert departed this life November 17, 1899.

Richard Farnsworth was born in Belleville, Hastings county, Ontario, April 15, 1849, and was reared in that section. In starting out to make his own way in the world he began learning a trade, to which he devoted three years. Then, going to Indiana, he worked on a farm for two years. At the time that he left home he had but two dollars and forty cents, and that sum was stolen from his trunk the first week! He had many discouraging experiences, but he bravely persevered, sticking to his task, and winning the commendation of his employers. Husbanding his small means, and gaining an invaluable reputation for honesty and reliability, he prospered, and in 1872 purchased the fine homestead which he has since carried on. It is situated but half a mile from Ottawa, comprises two hundred and thirty-six acres, and is considered one of the most valuable farms in the county. The buildings on the place alone cost upward of ten thousand dollars, and many substantial improvements have been made by the enterprising proprietor since it came into his possession. He has not been afraid of hard work, has met his obligations manfully, has dealt honestly and fairly by all with whom he has had business transactions, and the result is apparent.

As might be expected of a citizen of this character, Mr. Farnsworth has not neglected his public duties. He has served as a member of the local school board, and as one of the supervisors of LaSalle county, his influence being used for advancement and improvement in all lines. His ballot is always given to the nominees of the Republican party. Fraternally he is identified with the A. F. and A. M., belonging to Occidental Lodge, No. 40; Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, and to Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.

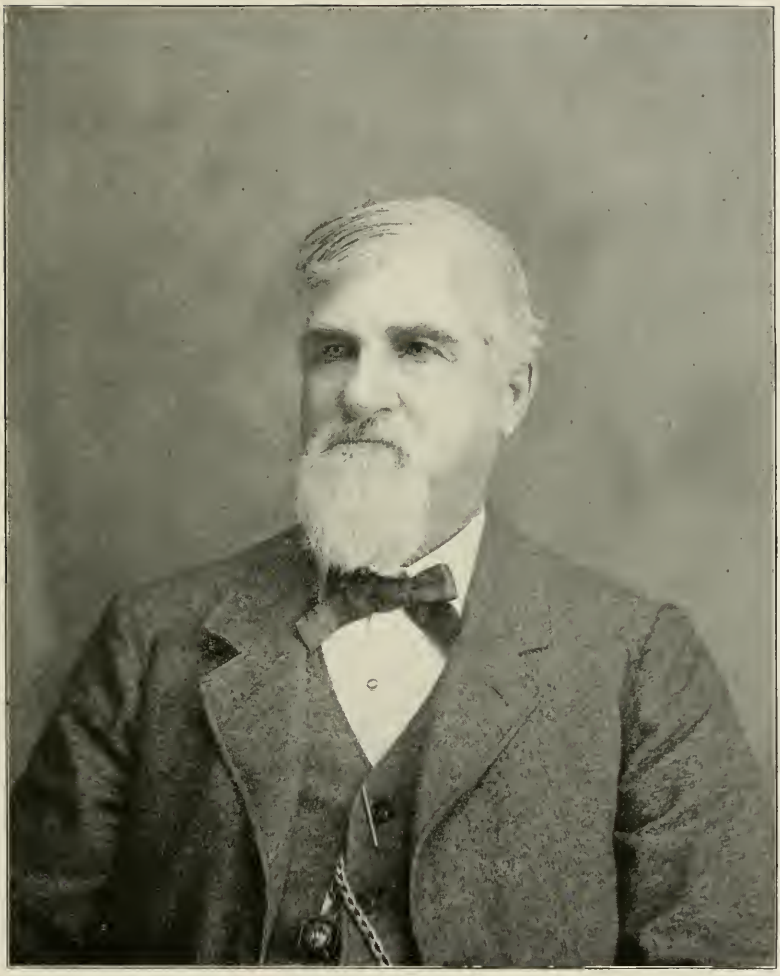
The first wife of Mr. Farnsworth was Edith, daughter of James and

Elizabeth (Close) Pickens, natives of Massachusetts. She was summoned to her reward on the 2d of February, 1889, and left four children to mourn her loss, namely: Walter, who is a commercial traveler and at present is living in the Bay state; George, who is a high-school student in Ottawa; Percy and Lizzie, who are at home. In February, 1890, Mr. Farnsworth married Miss Emma Danz, of Peru, Illinois. She was a daughter of Charles and Margaret (Nebel) Danz, and by her marriage was the mother of one child, Gretchen. Mrs. Farnsworth passed away March 3, 1899, mourned by her family and a large circle of friends. With Mr. Farnsworth she was a member of the Congregational church.

NATHAN FLEMING.

The gentleman named above, who is the subject of this biographical record, was born at Chestnut Hill, Chester county, Pennsylvania, January 10, 1827. His paternal great-grandfather was of Scotch-Irish descent and came from Donegal, Ireland, to America early in the eighteenth century. He settled in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where his son John Fleming was born in 1772. The latter was a carpenter by trade and followed his chosen vocation during the greater part of his life. He married Miss Elizabeth Hill, who was born in Donegal, Ireland, and came with her parents to Lancaster county when very young. Their only child, John Fleming, Jr., was born in 1803, in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. The mother died soon after the birth of her son, who was carried in his father's arms to Conestoga valley, in Lancaster county, where he was reared by his maternal grandparents. The "little red schoolhouse," where he pursued his education, was still standing, near Morgantown, Pennsylvania, when Nathan Fleming visited the locality in 1895. John Fleming never married again after his wife's death in 1803, but spent the most of his time in later years in the home of his son. He died in Davenport, Iowa, in 1844, in the seventy-third year of his age. In religious belief he adhered to the faith of the family—the Presbyterian.

In 1825 John Fleming, Jr., was united in marriage to Miss Mary Brower, a daughter of Abraham and Mary (Goodman) Brower. Her father was of Dutch parentage. He was born in Norristown, Pennsylvania, in 1783, and died in 1869, a member of the Methodist church, in which he was class-leader and exhorter. His wife, who was of German descent, was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1784, and departed this life in 1877, in her ninety-third year. They were the parents of five sons and six daughters, of whom three sons and one daughter are still living. Both the Browers and the



N. Fleming
Marseilles Ills

Goodmans were weavers and workers in textile fabrics. Although Pennsylvania Dutch was his mother tongue, Abraham Brower acquired an English education and taught school, his family being proficient in both languages. John and Mary (Brower) Fleming had nine children, six sons and three daughters: Nathan; Isaac N.; Joshua C., who died in infancy and is buried at Harmony church, Berks county, Pennsylvania; James, who died in 1869, at the age of thirty-six years; Mary Anna, who died in 1847, in her thirteenth year; Elizabeth; Margaret Jane; Burr Bryant, who died in 1876, in his thirty-fourth year; and John Davis, who died in infancy.

In the spring of 1837, John Fleming, Jr., and his family made their first move westward, stopping in Butler county, Pennsylvania; in 1841 they removed to Mount Vernon, Ohio; in 1843 to Marion county, that state, and in the autumn of 1845 came to LaSalle county, Illinois, locating on the bank of the Illinois river just above the present site of Seneca. In October, about one month after their arrival, John Fleming, Jr., suddenly departed this life, in his forty-third year, his death being occasioned by a congestive chill. "It has always seemed providential, after these many removals, that he should just live to leave his family in this God-favored land of the great state of Illinois."

When the family removed from Ohio Nathan Fleming did not accompany them, having an engagement to run a potash factory, at six dollars per month. Not hearing of his family, he returned late in the fall to Ohio, from Pennsylvania, where he had gone at the close of his term of engagement, and there he first learned of the death of his father. He at once started for Illinois, arriving about the 1st of March, 1846, having traveled on foot alone five hundred miles in the dead of winter. "Shall thy mother ever forget thee?" If ever a mother was glad to meet her son it was then. He, being the eldest, assumed his place at the head of the family and thus relieved his mother of much responsibility and care. She was most devoted to her children, her most pronounced characteristic being her unselfish love for them. She departed this life at the home of her daughter Elizabeth, in North Evanston, Illinois, December 14, 1879, and lies buried in the cemetery by the little church in Manlius.

In 1847 Nathan Fleming was employed on the farm of Solomon Bell, whose stepdaughter he subsequently married. In 1848 he rented a farm and was enabled to make a first payment on land bought at the first canal-land sale of that year. He continued farming until 1853, when he went to California, going from New York by ship and across the isthmus of Panama. He engaged both in agricultural pursuits and mining in California until 1857, but not meeting with the success he anticipated he returned home by the route which he had previously taken.

On the 19th of April, 1858, in Ottawa, Illinois, was celebrated the marriage of Nathan Fleming and Mary Harrington, who was born in Central Square, near Syracuse, New York, January 22, 1837. Her grandfather, John Harrington, was a native of England, and in that land married Miss Mary Barbara Bell. They became the parents of seven children, of whom Thomas, the father of Mrs. Fleming, was the eldest. He was born in England August 7, 1808, and came to America with his parents about 1834. On the 10th of March, 1836, he wedded Margaret Summers, at Central Square, New York. She was born December 16, 1811, and in 1837 they came to Marseilles, where Mr. Harrington was drowned in the Illinois river, March 16, 1838. In 1844 Mrs. Harrington was united in marriage to Solomon Bell, of Rutland township, and on the 6th of January, 1876, she was called to her final rest. To Nathan Fleming and his wife eight children were born: Herbert H., born May 26, 1859, was a soldier in the Cuban war as a member of the Second Regiment Illinois Infantry; Sherman, who was born March 26, 1861, and married Bertha Arnold, by whom he has two children—Margaret Lucile and Florence A.; Edwin D., who was born November 28, 1862, and died March 29, 1864; George C., who was born February 12, 1865, and married Jessie C. Samuels, by whom he has three children—Nathan L., Mary E. and Jeanette B.; Gertrude; James, who was born March 13, 1870, and died April 17, 1892; Frederic S., born July 31, 1872; and Margaret June, born June 5, 1874.

In 1858 Mr. Fleming engaged in the milling business in Ottawa, carrying on operations there until 1863, when he removed to his farm in Rutland township, operating it until 1867. Through the six succeeding years he purchased grain in Marseilles for the firm of Scott & Harrington, after which he took a vacation, going to California, where he visited some of the places that he had seen in the '50s. The First National Bank of Marseilles was incorporated in 1871 and Mr. Fleming was one of the original stockholders. He was elected vice-president January 17, 1874, and has since served continuously in that position. In 1891 the directors presented him a splendid gold watch chain and charm. In 1874 he removed to the farm where he now resides, leasing it for three years, and at the end of that time extending the lease. Upon the death of Mr. Bell, his wife's stepfather, one-half of the farm reverted to Mrs. Fleming and Mr. Fleming purchased the other half of the remaining heirs.

In 1848 our subject cast his first presidential vote, supporting Martin Van Buren. Since the organization of the Republican party he has been one of its staunch supporters, never swerving in his allegiance to the party and its principles. It has been his good fortune to represent that somewhat rare and ideal condition in which the office sought the man, rather than

the too common reversal of the case. He is at present township trustee of schools, and is officially connected with other concerns, being a director of the Rutland and Manlius Friendly Aid Insurance Company; treasurer of Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M.; vice-president and director of the First National Bank of Marseilles, and has held the office of assessor of Rutland township for twenty-five years, being elected twenty times without opposition. He voluntarily resigned in 1898. He is a member of Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M.; Shabbona Chapter, No. 37; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. In January, 1897, Mr. Fleming, accompanied by his wife, made another trip to California, and one of the places of interest visited by them was the old mining camp at Nevada City, California. On the very ground where Mr. Fleming had worked a claim forty years before, they found one solitary man at work. After a pleasant sojourn in the Golden state, they returned to LaSalle county and to their many friends living in this section of the state.

The following is an extract from the remarks of Mr. P. A. Butterfield, made on the fortieth anniversary of their wedding:

Mr. and Mrs. Fleming: Your children and friends have met with you in commemoration of your wedding which occurred forty years ago to-day, and have chosen me, in behalf of your children, to present to you their filial gratitude for favors, precept and example, and also this fine furniture. May it be useful, ornamental and always a reminder of those who view you with tender regard and loving kindness in your declining years.

Allow me also to present to you these beautiful chairs, in behalf of your many friends here convened, as a memento of their kind regard and esteem. They do not offer them as an article of any considerable money value, nor do they conceive they would be any more thankfully received by you were they more elaborate. They tender them to you hoping you may use them much, that they may be useful and comfortable, and bring to you that rest and repose so necessary to the welfare of those who have started down the western slope of life's hillside. Finally they present them wishing that they may cause you to recall occasionally the vision of the donors, the day and the date which makes this meeting and greeting eminently proper.

G. E. PENNEY.

G. E. Penney, a retired farmer residing at Ottawa, Illinois, may well be classed among the representative men of LaSalle county. Intelligent, public-spirited and liberal, his life has been an example and inspiration to others to make the best of their opportunities, even as he has done. He was born in the town of Adams, Jefferson county, New York, October 3,

1832, the state in which his father, George Penney, was also born. The family came from England to this country about the year 1630 and settled in the New England colony. The grandfather Penney married a Miss Crosby and moved to "York" state, where he brought up his children. George Penney married Miss Polly Gardner, whose father, Ezekiel Gardner, was a native of Rhode Island and moved from that state to New York after the birth of Polly. She died in that state in 1870, and her husband twenty years later.

Mr. Penney was the second child in a family of five who reached mature years. His boyhood and youth were passed in Jefferson county, and there he received his education, finishing with a course in Adams college. He farmed in the summer and for three years employed his time by teaching during the winter months, but his natural inclination was for farming, and in 1856 he came to LaSalle county and purchased a farm of one hundred acres at Freedom Center, in Freedom township. This land and its cultivation received his closest attention and he brought it to such a state of perfection that it yielded him a sufficient return to enable him to add to it until he owned four hundred acres of the choice land for which this state is famous. He has been much interested in raising cattle and hogs of a fine grade, and in this respect he has been a benefactor to the community by teaching them the benefit to be derived from raising choice stock on the farm. He has been unusually successful as a corn-grower, raising some two hundred acres annually and feeding a part of it to his hogs and cattle, thus not only getting more for his crop, but also keeping his land in the best possible condition of fertility. He feeds and sells from this farm each year a carload of hogs, and his successful crops and handsome returns from the stock raised has demonstrated clearly that he has solved the problem of extensive crop-raising without impoverishing the land. For twenty years he gave his entire attention to agriculture, and then took up his residence in Ottawa in 1877, and the following twelve years carried on his farm by means of hired help. Since then he has rented the land and for four years engaged in buying grain near the Rock Island Railroad.

In 1855 Mr. Penney was married to Miss Arvilla Wheeler, daughter of Daniel Wheeler and a native of the township of Lorraine, near Adams, New York, where our subject was born. Three children were born to them: Anna Dell, wife of Thomas McCall, of Chicago; Edith M., wife of Emil Johnson, of this city; and George B., of Chicago. Mrs. Penney passed to her reward May 6, 1896, a sincere member of the Baptist church, and left a host of friends to mourn her demise.

April 17, 1899, Mr. Penney was married to Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson,

the daughter of Rev. David and Ruth (Lewis) Prichard. Her father was a native of Brekenshire, Wales, and her mother of Remsen, Oneida county, New York. Mrs. Penney was born in Delhi, Delaware county, Ohio, January 26, 1850. By her former marriage, to W. W. Johnson, she had two daughters: Mrs. Lucy Lansing, who lives at Amboy, Illinois; and Gertrude, who lives with her mother.

Mr. Penney is an earnest worker in the Baptist church, of which he is a trustee, and he is also a prominent Mason, belonging to Freedom Lodge, No. 194, A. F. & A. M. In politics he is a Republican, but has never aspired to office. In 1892 he erected a fine residence in one of the most pleasant locations in the city, on Paul street, which is a model of modern architecture and convenience. It is finished in the most approved modern style and heated throughout with hot water, making it a most comfortable and desirable property. Mr. Penney is characterized as a broad-minded, upright man, whose conduct in life will bear the test of the closest scrutiny and who has the esteem of everyone.

SYLVANUS S. THOMPSON.

Some forty-five years ago Sylvanus S. Thompson came to LaSalle county, with whose welfare he has been closely associated ever since, and few citizens of Marseilles and vicinity are better known or more highly esteemed.

The family to which our subject belongs has been represented in Pennsylvania for several generations. John Thompson was the grandfather and George L. Thompson the father of Sylvanus S. Born in the Keystone state in 1823, George L. Thompson married, in 1846, Elizabeth Wilson, of the same state. In 1854 they removed to LaSalle county and settled in the town of Grand Rapids, where the husband and father improved a farm, and was successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1891. The mother, who was a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Wilson, departed this life in 1877, having preceded her husband about fourteen years.

The birth of Sylvanus S. Thompson occurred in Beallsville, Washington county, Pennsylvania, June 10, 1847, and he was consequently seven years of age when he accompanied his parents in their removal to this county. He acquired a thorough, practical knowledge of farming when quite young, and continued to aid his father in the management of the old homestead until he reached his majority. He then engaged in farming upon his own account, and was prosperous in the undertaking. Making a

specialty of raising and feeding cattle and hogs, he found a ready market for them, and derived a good income from this source alone. For twenty-five years he has owned a homestead in Grand Rapids township, and has instituted substantial and valuable improvements upon the place within this period. The farm comprises three hundred acres of fertile land, all kept under fine cultivation. Since 1892 Mr. Thompson has lived in Marseilles and has carried on his farm by the aid of reliable men whom he has employed. March 26, 1874, the marriage of our subject and Miss Sylvia Stead, a daughter of Henry Stead, of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, was solemnized. A son and a daughter were born to this worthy couple, namely: Henry S., now a student at Lake Forest, Illinois; and Ethelinda, now the wife of Charles Booth, of Peoria, Illinois.

Fraternally Mr. Thompson is a Knight Templar Mason, belonging to Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M.; Ottawa Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. Politically he has been a faithful worker in the ranks of the Republican party for years, having held many positions of trust. In June, 1898, he was honored with the appointment to the postmastership at Marseilles, and, entering upon his duties upon the 16th of the following July, he has made a record as an efficient and popular public official.

SAMUEL P. HALL.

An able member of the LaSalle county bar is Judge Samuel P. Hall, who for the past nine years has been engaged in practice in Ottawa, and who long since achieved distinction in the field of jurisprudence. He is a man of scholarly attainments, possessing thorough knowledge of the law, sound judgment upon all disputed points, and the clear, logical mind which readily solves intricacies and involved questions. All cases entrusted to him he manages with masterly skill and tact, and never stoops to the petty methods employed by too many members of the legal profession, but maintains that high standard of ethics to which none can take exceptions.

The family to which our subject belongs, and to which his name and record have added new luster, is one of the oldest in New England. The founder of this branch in America was a native of England, and settled in the colony of Connecticut in 1645. Sherman A. Hall, the paternal grandfather of the judge, was one of the pioneers of DeKalb county, Illinois, where he was occupied in agricultural pursuits until his death.

Born December 25, 1818, in Jefferson county, New York, Russell R. Hall, the father of the judge, passed his boyhood there, and about 1845 became a resident of DeKalb county, Illinois. December 22, 1848, he

married Miss Ruth Ann Simmons, who was born July 10, 1823; and to them were born two sons and a daughter: Samuel P., Frank, who is a farmer of LaSalle county; and Emeline M., wife of C. C. Duffy, of Ottawa, the present clerk of the supreme court. The death of Mrs. Ruth Ann Hall occurred July 16, 1861.

The birth of Samuel P. Hall took place May 16, 1851, in Clinton, DeKalb county. In his youth he attended the public schools and Jenning's Seminary, at Aurora, an institution conducted under the auspices of the Methodists. He continued his higher studies there until he was graduated, in 1871. Having determined his future course in life, he then began the study of law in the office of Judge Parks, of Aurora, and later he was guided and aided by William Barge, a lawyer of Dixon, Illinois. Circumstances prevented his rapid progress in the acquisition of a legal education, and it was not until 1879 that he was admitted to the bar of LaSalle county, in the appellate court at Ottawa. He established an office at Plano, Illinois, and subsequently, in February, 1881, removed to LaSalle, where he succeeded in building up an extensive practice. In 1890 he was elected to the judgeship of the probate court of this county, in which office he made a record of which he may justly be proud. Upon the expiration of his term, in 1894, he opened an office in Ottawa, and is conducting a general law business, giving particular attention to probate matters. Politically he is identified with the Democratic party, and socially is a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 67, F. & A. M., of LaSalle.

December 17, 1881, Judge Hall married Miss Carrie Henry, daughter of James K. Henry, of Dixon, Illinois. They have a pleasant home and are the parents of five promising children, who are named, in order of birth, as follows: Samuel P., Jr.; Bruce; Ruth H.; Blanche, and Esther. Mrs. Hall is a lady of intelligence and culture, and presides over her home with womanly grace and dignity, endearing herself to all who know her, and carrying an atmosphere of loving sympathy and helpfulness wherever she goes.

FREDERICK P. TISLER.

Prominent among the French-Americans of LaSalle county is Frederick P. Tisler, a well-to-do and enterprising florist of Marseilles. He was born in Alsace, France, December 15, 1843, his parents being Charles B. and Catherine (Neuviller) Tisler. Both of his grandfathers, John Tisler and Charles Neuviller, were soldiers serving under the orders of Napoleon Bonaparte. In 1855 the Tisler family, to which our subject belonged, emigrated to the United States. Arriving in New York city, they proceeded

on their westward journey, and thenceforth were residents of Ottawa, Illinois, until death released them from life's burdens and responsibilities. Mrs. Tisler died in 1867, and was survived by the husband and father, whose death took place in 1895.

Frederick P. Tisler is the eldest of five children, and with his brother and three sisters attended the public schools of his native land. After coming to this country he went to the Ottawa schools for a short time, and then set about learning the carpenter's trade. During the next few years he was employed in the building of many of the houses and stores in Ottawa. In 1879 he came to Marseilles, where for a score of years he was similarly occupied. In 1892 he embarked in a very different line of enterprise, and has made a success of the venture. He opened a greenhouse, and has since made numerous improvements which add greatly to the value of the plant. A fine hot-water system is used during the winter season for keeping the greenhouse at the proper temperature, and all modern appliances and devices used by florists are employed by Mr. Tisler, who is wide-awake and progressive. He is very popular. In 1896 his fellow citizens elected him to the position of alderman, and he was re-elected for a second term. In 1897 he was appointed collector of taxes for Rutland township. Fraternally he belongs to the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

In 1867 Mr. Tisler married Miss Sophie E. Scheidecker, who was born and reared in France. She is a daughter of Louis and Henrietta (Bernard) Scheidecker, and from this union were born to them the following, namely: Sophie E., wife of M. H. Pitts, of Deer Park, Alabama; Emilie H., wife of Louis Morel, Marseilles; Fred P., Jr., a machinist; Ida J., a graduate of 1893; May L., a teacher in the Marseilles schools; Charles L., who died in Ottawa, in 1878; Henry A.; Cora L., a graduate of the class of 1899 (M. H. S.); Adele L.; Eva J.; and Mabel E., who died in 1890. All of the children were given a liberal education and are well qualified to meet the battles of life. Mr. Tisler is a man of thorough integrity of character, as all who know him cheerfully testify.

CHARLES H. KNICKERBOCKER.

Charles H. Knickerbocker, a retired farmer of LaSalle county, was born in Columbia county, New York, August 17, 1841, upon a farm near where both his parents were ushered into existence. His father, James B., was born February 5, 1812, and his mother, Catherine, nee Latimer, in 1821. In 1845 James Knickerbocker brought his family to LaSalle county, Illi-

nois, and settled on a farm in Manlius (now Miller) township. He broke the sod, improved the land and did general farming. He was a man whose personality was largely felt throughout the community, where he was much esteemed. He was a Republican and held a number of minor offices. He was a member of the school board several years and also acted in the capacity of treasurer for the school. His death occurred on his farm, May 4, 1884, his wife dying there March 8, 1887. Their children are: Harriet, deceased, wife of Richard Pitzer; Sally, wife of J. B. Parr, of Manlius; Milton, deceased; Lorinda, wife of George Bowers, residing on the old homestead; and Charles H., our subject.

As a boy Charles H. Knickerbocker was inured to the work incident to farm life. He attended district school during the winter months, working on the farm in summer. He remained with his parents until he attained his twenty-first year, when he began to follow agriculture for himself, at first on rented ground. He then purchased eighty acres in Miller township, where he lived until 1883, when he bought one hundred acres in Brookfield township, where he moved, remaining there until 1884, and he then came to Marseilles. He has been most successful in his farming operations and has accumulated a neat competency by his thrift and industry, making him independent of future labor. January 10, 1866, he was united in marriage to Miss Rebecca Shipman, daughter of Johnathan and Laura A. (Woodard, born February 23, 1812) Shipman. Her father was born in Providence, New York, March 11, 1809, and was captain of the home guards. Johnathan Shipman was united in marriage, in Providence, New York, September 30, 1830, to Miss Laura A. Woodard, and they came to Marseilles, LaSalle county, in 1856. They were the parents of four children, three of whom lived to maturity: Marcius M., who lives in Nebraska; Rebecca, wife of our subject; and Davis N., who is a resident of Joliet, Illinois. Johnathan Shipman died January 28, 1883, and his wife passed away September 28 of the same year.

WILLIAM F. FLETCHER.

In all the various relations of life W. F. Fletcher bears an excellent reputation. As a citizen he upholds all movements of progress and improvement, and loyally supports the principles which lie at the foundation of good government. As a business man his integrity, justice and enterprise are well known and favorably mentioned among the people of Ottawa. In the home circle and in society his genial, happy manner and genuine

kindliness of nature render his presence something to be wished for, and thus his friends are numerous.

The father of our subject, William G. Fletcher, is still living, and is now in his eighty-second year. He is a native of Virginia, and has followed the occupation of machinist as a means of gaining a livelihood. His wife, the mother of William F. Fletcher, bore the maiden name of Hester Griffin. To the marriage of William G. and Hester Fletcher four sons and two daughters were born, of whom the eldest sons, John and Stephen, are deceased, and the others are named, in order of birth, Catherine, George, Mary and William F. The mother is now seventy-eight years of age.

Our subject was born in Baltimore, Maryland, March 26, 1855, and when he arrived at a suitable age he commenced attending the public schools of Baltimore, where he laid the foundations of the liberal education which he now possesses. In 1875 he came to Ottawa, where he has been engaged in the manufacture of cigars since 1886. He enjoys an extensive patronage, which he justly deserves, owing to the high grade of work which is turned out under his supervision. He is the manufacturer of the celebrated Red Back brand, the reputation of which is not confined to La-Salle county limits, and also Fletcher's Key West and the original Montezuma, all of which are strictly hand-made.

The pleasant home of Mr. Fletcher is located at No. 927 Walnut street. He was married in 1875 to Miss Christiana Baisch, a daughter of Jacob Baisch. Mrs. Fletcher's parents were born in Germany and emigrated to America in 1848, coming direct to Ottawa, where they resided until 1887, when they moved to Madison, Nebraska, where they still reside. Our subject and wife have one child, Lillie B., born June 15, 1876, and is a well-educated, accomplished young lady, living with her parents. Mr. Fletcher is essentially a domestic man, usually passing his leisure time at home. He is not a politician, but discharges his duty as a voter, his preference being the Republican nominees and principles.

JOHN FUNK.

John Funk, one of the leading and public-spirited citizens of Ottawa, LaSalle county, is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in the town of Coblentz, on the river Rhine, August 1, 1838. When he was five years of age he accompanied his parents, Francis J. and Elizabeth (Burger) Funk, to America, taking passage in a sailing vessel, the Victoria, at the port of Havre de Grace, France. After a long, tedious voyage of many weeks the little party landed at their destination, New Orleans, and

proceeded by steamer up the Mississippi river. At first the family lived in LaSalle, but later removed to the vicinity of Rutland, where the father purchased a tract of land of John Green. The wife and mother was summoned to her final rest in 1847, and soon after that sad event the father bought a lot and built a house near the old Fox River Hotel, in Ottawa, making his home here until 1852.

The year mentioned was a notable one to John Funk, for though but fourteen years of age, his father permitted him to become his companion on a trip across the plains. They started with an ox team on April 1, and reached Shasta, California, on the 8th of September following. For eleven months they prospected, being at the placer mines of the Pitt and Grace rivers chiefly, and at the expiration of that time they returned to this state, better satisfied than ever before with its advantages. Francis J. Funk married Esther Morton, a native of Massachusetts, and two children were born of their union. Eliza, their daughter, was reared in the family of a Mr. Reddick, by whose surname she was called. The death of Francis J. Funk occurred in 1880, when he was in his eighty-second year, at his homestead adjoining the town of Streator.

Upon his return to this state from California John Funk resumed agricultural pursuits, to which he gave his attention until he reached his majority. Then, going to Streator, he embarked in the lumber business, selling out his interest in the same in 1870. His next venture was to become a member of the firm subsequently known as McCormick & Funk, grain dealers, and in this enterprise he met with great success. At the close of a year and a half he bought his partner's interest and moved the buildings and business to Long Point, Livingston county, Illinois. He remained there for eighteen months, then leasing the property and returning to his father's old homestead near Streator. He assisted in the management of the farm during the last years of the elder man's life, and continued to carry on the place until 1888. For the last eleven years he has lived in Ottawa, and has occupied the residence on Columbus street which was formerly owned by his sister, who died a number of years ago. He is the owner of one thousand acres of excellent farm land in Valley county, Nebraska, and of a valuable improved homestead of two hundred and forty acres near the town of Wallace, LaSalle county. Many of the leading industries of Streator found an influential friend and supporter in Mr. Funk. One of the founders of the Streator Coal Company, he was a stockholder and a director of the organization for years, and was a director and vice-president of the Streator Bottle and Glass Company for several years. In political principles he is clear-minded, and, though he never sought or desired public office, his friends and neighbors frequently brought forward his name as

a candidate for local positions, with the result that he was elected and served as one of the trustees of Streator, as assessor of the town, and as assessor of the town of Bruce, and held various other offices, acquitting himself in a creditable manner.

In the autumn of 1864 Mr. Funk and Miss Mary Rich, of Streator, were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, H. and Mary (Strockbien) Rich. Eight children bless their union, namely: Elizabeth, now the wife of E. S. Kempton, of Adams, Livingston county, Illinois; Amelia, Mrs. William H. Hendricks, of Sandwich, Illinois; Ella, who married Frank Egan, of Ottawa; Mary, wife of R. H. Smith, a member of the firm of Funk & Smith, grain dealers of Streator; Lydia, Fannie and Sylvia, who are at home; and Frank, who is a high school student.

THOMAS SULLIVAN.

Thomas Sullivan, of Allen township, LaSalle county, is one of the substantial and influential farmers of northern Illinois and represents that type of citizenship of whom any community might well be proud. He has amassed a considerable property by hard work and good judgment displayed in looking after his business, and his achievements in this regard cannot but be a source of gratification to him and his family. Starting in life a poor boy, with no one to help him to prosperity, he has shown what an American lad can accomplish when possessed of ambition, industry, perseverance and frugal habits. His example will act as an incentive to the youth of this age, by firing their ambitions, and his life is well worthy their emulation. He was born in Norway, on May 2, 1835. The death of his father left his mother and three small children without means. She was a woman not easily daunted, and at once set to work to earn a living for herself and little ones. She was not afraid of hard work and the endurance she displayed in caring for her family was one of the characteristics which made her successful in her efforts. She was called to the higher life in 1846, leaving one daughter, Julia, and two sons, Thomas and Avian, of Norway township, to bless her memory.

Thomas Sullivan was reared to manhood by Samuel Pierson, of this county. He first labored three years, receiving no wages, and when he reached an age when he was able to engage his services for wages he worked for Ole Anderson, the first year receiving a pair of calves and the second year four dollars per month. He was frugal in his habits, and soon was able to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land, paying therefor six dollars per acre. He continued to save his earnings and add to his

original purchase until he had secured six hundred and forty acres of land in this township. This is well improved and cultivated, and is as valuable as any land in the state. It is provided with good groves, which furnish the necessary shade for the stock, while the large, commodious barns and a modern residence, which was constructed at a cost of five thousand dollars, make his land one of the most attractive in this section.

Mr. Sullivan and Miss Margaret Ann Thompson were joined hand and heart and have traveled the path of life together for many years. Ten children have blessed their union—six daughters and four sons—namely: Isabella Curren, of Aurora, Illinois; Mary Ann Nelson, a resident of Minnesota; Sarah; Martin; John Allen, who resides in Meeker county, Minnesota, on a farm of three hundred acres, which is the property of his father; Nellie, who lives at home; Ila Anderson, Minnesota; Lydia, Frank and Marshall, all at home. Mr. Sullivan and his family are attendants at the Methodist Episcopal church, of which they are members, and where they are earnest workers. He is a Republican in politics and represents that party as assessor of Allen township. He also renders effective service as a member of the school board and is one of the most honorable and esteemed men of the county.

ALBERT E. BUTTERS.

About sixteen years ago Albert E. Butters was admitted to the bar of LaSalle county, and for eleven years of this period he was engaged in the practice of his profession alone. Since 1894 he has been associated in partnership with Robert Carr and George J. Gleim, under the firm name of Butters, Carr & Gleim. They enjoy an extensive practice, of the most representative type, and number on the list of their clients many of the leading business houses and prominent citizens of Ottawa and LaSalle county.

William and Elizabeth (Wilson) Butters, the parents of our subject, were natives of Scotland. Both were born and reared in the city of Glasgow, and there was celebrated their marriage. Soon after that event the young couple sailed for America, the land of opportunity, and reached New York city in 1851. They continued their westward journey, coming direct to Ottawa, and within a short time they settled in the village of Harding, in Freedom township. The father opened a blacksmith shop and built up a good trade, but the continuance of California gold discoveries eventually led to his journeying to the Pacific slope. There he spent two years in the gold-mining region. Returning to his old home in Freedom township, he continued to cultivate and improve his farm until the death of

his loved wife, December 30, 1883. He removed to Ottawa at that time, and died in this city November 29, 1896, aged seventy-seven years. Mrs. Butters was born in 1821, and was consequently in her sixty-third year at the time of her demise. Of their seven children two, William and James, are deceased. Agnes married a Mr. Wilcox; Elizabeth is the wife of C. C. Carpenter; Anna, married C. H. Stockley, of Freedom township; and Jane is the wife of C. K. Howard.

Albert E. Butters was born in Freedom township, LaSalle county, September 22, 1865. He grew up on the farm and received the customary district school education of the period. Later he graduated in the Ottawa high school and then pursued a course of commercial studies in the Ottawa Business College. Thus well equipped for the practical duties of life, he obtained a position as a teacher, and during the following three years was in charge of schools at Harding and Dayton, Illinois. In the meantime he spent his leisure hours in the study of law, and was admitted to practice in 1883, as previously stated. By strict attention to business, and by the exercise of the talents with which he is liberally endowed, he has risen to an enviable position among the members of his profession, and commands a large share of the patronage of the public. Socially he is connected with Freedom Lodge, No. 194, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and politically he is an active worker in the Democratic party.

On the 18th of February, 1890, Mr. Butters married Miss Ida B. Hayes, a daughter of George Hayes, a leading citizen of East Saginaw, Michigan. November 19, 1892, was the date of the birth of their son, Harold.

GRANT CONARD.

Ottawa boasts of no more ambitious, enterprising young men than he of whom this sketch is penned. Admitted to the bar by the supreme court of Illinois, in 1895, he immediately embarked in the practice of law at Ottawa. He also became interested in the sale of real estate, particularly farm lands in Indiana, Missouri and Texas. To those various states, and to others in the great and prosperous west, he for several years conducted excursions of homeseekers, and was successful in locating a large number of families, happily and to their entire satisfaction. Recently, however, on account of his large and steadily increasing law practice, he has found it necessary to abandon his real-estate operations and devote his entire time to the interests of his clients. In view of the fact that he has been engaged in the practice of law but a few years, and when he started had his reputation to make, his success has been marked, and his future is full of promise.

Frank Conard

The ancestors of Grant Conard were undoubtedly Germans, the correct name being "Conrad." But neither the date of their first settlement in America nor the manner in which the name became changed can be definitely ascertained. Certain it is, however, that for a number of generations prior to the Revolutionary war his ancestors resided in the colony of Virginia and were leading and respected people in that aristocratic old state. The great-grandfather of our subject, Anthony Conard, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and all of his descendants have been noted for patriotism and loyal citizenship. The father of Anthony Conard was John Conard, a native of Virginia. His children were Anthony, John, Jonathan, Nathan, Joseph and Susan. Anthony was born at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains, in Loudoun county, Virginia, in 1760, and was but a mere boy when he enlisted in the patriot army. After the war he resided in Virginia, near the plantation of General Washington, with whom he was personally acquainted, and upon at least one occasion General Washington was a visitor at the home of Anthony Conard.

In 1827 Anthony Conard emigrated to the state of Ohio. He lived one year in Belmont county and then located in Licking county, Ohio, near the village of Utica, where he died in 1843. He was buried on the farm of his brother Joseph, near Utica, Ohio.

Anthony Conard, Jr., grandfather of our subject, was born in Virginia, in October, 1799, and died in Crawford county, Illinois, December 26, 1851. In 1821 he married Nancy Gregg, a native of Virginia. She was born in 1801 and died in LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1847. The eldest son of Anthony and Nancy Conard was David Wilson Conard, father of our subject. (The name "Wilson" was the family name of Nancy Gregg's mother.) David W. Conard was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, April 7, 1825, and died in LaSalle county, Illinois, April 24, 1899. He removed to Licking county, Ohio, with his parents in 1828, and came to LaSalle county, Illinois, on horseback from Licking county, Ohio, arriving here May 24, 1846. Soon after coming to this county he located on what is now section 30 of Miller township, and engaged in farming, in which business he was unusually successful, becoming one of the largest landowners in this county. His success is a striking example of what may be accomplished by a youth who has the energy and perseverance to seize upon opportunity, and to master it by diligence and perseverance.

David W. Conard was a man of sterling worth. Unassuming, unostentatious, he had no political ambitions, but was forced at various times to accept the honorary offices of his town. He practiced strict economy with himself, but was generous to others. He was a splendid example of the citizen farmer, informed upon the matters pertaining to his country's wel-

fare, regarding these not simply from the standpoint of a partisan, but from the broader view of a patriot. It is with pleasure that we insert here a brief extract from the resolutions adopted by the board of directors of the First National Bank of Marseilles, Illinois, upon the death of this old settler.

"Resolved, That in the death of David W. Conard this board loses a member who for an unbroken period of twenty years had been a director of this association. His long period of service is thus coincident with much of the entire history of the bank; yet his business activities were so intense and extended that his work here was but a small part of that restless energy by which he attained success and became conspicuous in his chosen field of practical enterprise. David W. Conard was pre-eminently a self-made man, of that self-reliant American type which creates and wins success. He always took an active interest in public affairs, and held public positions of responsibility and trust, and yet such was the versatility of his mind that he found time for a wide range of reading, and in his literary attainments had written papers and poems on practical subjects of the day.

"Our departed friend lies in the sleep of death, and after reviewing the activities of his busy life it is hard to realize that he is still in death.

To rest forever, after earthly strife,
In the calm light of everlasting life."

David W. Conard was married in LaSalle county, Illinois, March 17, 1853, to Elizabeth J. (Grove) Conard. Of the children born of this marriage but three are living, Wilson, born October 5, 1863, residing upon a farm in Rutland township in this county; Laura, born November 15, 1860, now the wife of Samuel H. Montgomery, of Marseilles, Illinois; and our subject, Grant, born August 5, 1867. Elizabeth (Grove) Conard was born in Licking county, Ohio, January 17, 1828. She was a daughter of David and Anna (Howser) Grove. David Grove was born in Shenandoah county, Virginia, October 14, 1804, and died in this county February 18, 1880. Anna (Howser) Grove was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, December 2, 1805, and died in this county August 8, 1849. David and Anna (Howser) Grove were married in Licking county, Ohio, December 22, 1826, and came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in December, 1829, being among the very first settlers of this county. During the Indian troubles and the Black Hawk war David Grove and family lived in the old fort in Ottawa, to which place they had fled when warned by Shabbona of the approach of the murderous Black Hawk and his tribe. The mother of our subject is still living and has a vivid recollection of the stirring scenes of her childhood. She resides with her daughter, Laura, in Marseilles, Illinois. She is one of the few

survivors of that rugged band of pioneers who prepared the way for the advanced civilization of to-day—who left the comforts and luxuries of their eastern homes, braved the dangers and privations of a new country and on the rough borders of civilization toiled and suffered and died that their children might inherit the promise.

David Grove was a son of John and Barbara (Lienbarger) Grove, natives of Germany, the correct name for Grove being "Graff." Barbara was born in 1773 and died in LaSalle county, Illinois, in June, 1853.

The birth of Grant Conard took place in Miller township, this county, and during his boyhood he attended the district school of the neighborhood at such times as he could be spared from the work of the farm. After attaining his majority he attended the Grand Prairie Seminary, Onarga, Illinois; Ottawa Business College; Columbia School of Oratory, Chicago; and the Kent College of Law, Chicago. He taught in the public schools of this county several years, and also taught in the Ottawa Business College. For three years that institution was under the management of Mr. Conard, this being prior to his entrance into the legal profession. He read law in the office of Lincoln & Stead, prominent attorneys of this place. Mr. Conard is a stanch Democrat and has taken considerable interest in local politics.

The year which witnessed Mr. Conard's entrance into the professional world was marked by an event of equal importance in his career, as on November 7th of that year Miss Mildred Shaver became his wife. Her parents, George D. and Fidelia (Munson) Shaver, were among the early settlers of LaSalle county, and here Mrs. Conard was born and reared. She was born February 5, 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Conard have two children, namely: Horace Milton, born August 6, 1896, and Fidelia Elizabeth, born April 17, 1898.

George D. Shaver was born in this county January 28, 1839. He was a son of Cyrus and Betsey (Hackett) Shaver. Cyrus Shaver was born in Licking county, Ohio, August 30, 1812, and died in this county February 21, 1883. Betsey (Hackett) Shaver was born in Wheeling, Virginia, November 4, 1815, and is now living in this county. The parents of Cyrus Shaver were David and Nancy (Grove) Shaver. David Shaver was born in Shenandoah county, Virginia, October 10, 1787, and died in this county January 2, 1848. Nancy (Grove) Shaver was born in Virginia, July 31, 1791. They were married August 8, 1811. The father of David Shaver was Nicholas Shaver, a native of Virginia. George D. and Fidelia (Munson) Shaver were married in this county December 20, 1860. George D. is a prominent farmer of LaSalle county, Illinois, and resides upon a farm in Rutland township. Fidelia (Munson) Shaver was born in this county November 18, 1840, and died in this county, February 28, 1891. She was a

daughter of William and Rachel (Hall) Munson. William Munson was born in Onondaga county, New York, October 5, 1806, and died in this county February 16, 1879. He settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1833. His father was Hiram Munson, a native of New York. Rachel (Hall) Munson was born in Kentucky, in 1817. She was a daughter of William and Mary J. R. (Wilburs) Hall. William Hall was born in Georgia, in 1787, and his wife Mary was born in Kentucky, the same year. William Hall and wife and their daughter Elizabeth were massacred by the Indians, at the Indian Creek massacre, in Freedom township, LaSalle county, Illinois, May 20, 1832, and their two daughters, Rachel and Sylvia, were taken captive by the Indians. Rachel died in LaSalle county, Illinois, May 20, 1870.

JOHN H. ANDERSON.

No one can hear the story of John Hunter Anderson's life and fail to be impressed with the pluck and fortitude which he has manifested. Nor can one refrain from deeply admiring and respecting this worthy citizen of Streator, and at the same time must learn many lessons from his brave struggles with adversity and obstacles which would have daunted the spirit of most men.

A native of Airdrie, Scotland, born July 8, 1859, our subject is a son of William and Mary (Hunter) Anderson and a grandson of John Anderson and John Hunter. The parents, who are likewise natives of the land of heather, are still living, their home being in Streator. They emigrated to the United States when their son, John H., was an infant but nine months old, and for a number of years Mr. Anderson was inspector of coal mines at Braidwood and Streator, Illinois, later acting in the same capacity at Virden.

The boyhood of our subject was spent in Braidwood, Will county, Illinos, chiefly, his educational advantages being limited, as he commenced working in the coal mines at the early age of ten years. Eight long, tedious years the lad was thus employed, at the end of which time he met with the great calamity of his life. A large portion of the roof of the mine in which he and his brother were working collapsed, and when he was extricated it was found that his spine was seriously injured. Paralysis of the lower limbs resulted, and for a long time he was practically helpless. When he had partially recovered the brave youth set about the task of mastering the science of telegraphy, and is entirely self-taught. At length he was employed by the Western Union Telegraph Company at Streator, and remained with that concern for twelve years. In 1892 he became the man-

ager of the Postal Telegraph Cable Company's office at Streator, and still occupies this responsible position. He has proved himself faithful and efficient, and enjoys the confidence and sincere respect of all who know him. In early life he formed careful, frugal habits, and, partly owing to this, and partly to the fact that he has made judicious investments of his savings, he is now the possessor of a competence. He owns three good residences in Streator, and rents two of them, while the third is his own home, and besides he has money invested in the wholesale and retail tobacco business.

On the 5th of May, 1893, the marriage of John H. Anderson and Miss Emily Anderson was celebrated in Streator. Mrs. Anderson, who is of Swedish parentage, and was not even in the remotest degree related to our subject, is a lady of good education and refinement, and, like her husband, has numerous friends in this city.

WILLIAM E. WILLIAMSON.

William E. Williamson, of Miller township, LaSalle county, is one of the leading agriculturists of this county, where he enjoys an extended acquaintance, having grown from infancy to manhood here. His parents were Endre and Christena (Gunnerson) Williamson, both natives of Norway, who moved to Miller township, where our subject was born February 4, 1852. Endre Williamson was born February 5, 1827, and was educated in the Norwegian schools. He came to America in the year 1849, and was married in this country to Miss Christena Gunnerson, who was born in Norway, March 25, 1832. He located in this county and purchased some land, where he engaged in farming and reared his family to honorable manhood and womanhood. Eight children blessed their home, namely: William E., the subject of this biography; Cordelia Knutson; Martin E.; Milton C.; George F.; Albert; Theodore H., who farms the homestead; and Helen Hoganson, deceased. The living children are all residents of this vicinity except George F., who resides at Rankin, Vermillion county, Illinois. The father died February 7, 1876, and the mother passed away August 5, 1899.

William E. Williamson received his education in the public school, and at the same time improved his spare moments by assisting his father with the farm work. He has always shown a remarkable aptitude for this industry, and when he arrived at manhood he purchased a farm of one hundred and forty-three acres in this township, where he has since made his home. He is a careful business man and his land shows that brain as well

as brawn has been applied in its cultivation. He was married December 12, 1878, to Miss Sallie O. Sampson, a native of this county, and a daughter of S. K. Sampson, who was born in Norway. Seven children have been born to them—Mamie, Silas, Charlotte, Ethel, Ernest and two who died in infancy. Mr. Williamson is a strong Democrat, and has held a number of township offices, being at present school treasurer and town clerk of the township. Himself and family are members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints, and are most estimable people, greatly respected.

WILLIAM JOSEPH HORN.

Located on a fine farm in Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, near the town of Streator, we find the subject of this sketch, William Joseph Horn, son of John Horn, deceased, for many years a prominent and influential citizen of the county.

John Horn was born in Germany in 1833, and in early life came to this country. With the exception of some six years, when he worked at the carpenter's trade, he spent his life in agricultural pursuits. In 1852 he made the overland journey to California, experiencing the usual hardships and privations incident to a trip across the plains at that day. Being a successful hunter, he killed a considerable amount of game on the way. At the end of a year spent in California he returned east, making the journey by the isthmus route. In LaSalle county, Illinois, he acquired a large farm, comprising six hundred and fifty acres, on which he built a commodious residence, large barns, etc., and on which are several groves. He chose for his wife Miss Theresa Burgall, a native of Alsace, France, a young woman well educated in both the French and German languages. To them were born ten children, eight of whom grew to adult age. They are as follows: William Joseph, whose name initiates this review; Frances M. Johnson; George Henry, of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county; Mary A. Schlachter, of Streator, Illinois; Neal, of Otter Creek township; Lizzie R. and Katie B. Kuhn, of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county; and Sarah, of Streator, Illinois. The two deceased were James and Amelia. The mother of these children is still living, but their father died in February, 1892, at the age of fifty-nine years. He was a member of the I. O. O. F., and gave his support politically to the Republican party.

William Joseph Horn was born in the township in which he now lives, January 28, 1861; was reared on his father's farm and educated in the public schools near his home. At the age of twenty-four he left home and went to Comanche county, Kansas, where he resided eight years, engaged in

the stock business. At the death of his father he returned home and took charge of the home farm, and has carried on its operations ever since.

Mr. Horn was married, at the age of twenty-nine years, at Cold Water, Comanche county, Kansas, to Miss Nora E. Kollar, who was born and educated at South Bend, Indiana, daughter of David and Elizabeth Kollar, now residents of Oklahoma. Mrs. Horn is one of seven children—Delia Merrill, Joseph, Franklin, Horace, Nora E., Clara Barber and Almira Pierce. Mr. and Mrs. Horn have four sons—Leon G., John David, Franklin Elmer and James Foster.

Mr. Horn is a member in good standing of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a Republican.

JAMES R. HUNT.

James R. Hunt, proprietor of the Spring Hill Dairy, Ottawa, Illinois, has been in business here for over twenty-seven years. He purchased the dairy from Samuel Dickerman, keeps over fifty head of cows, and has a large sale for his products—pure milk and cream.

Mr. Hunt was born January 25, 1847, in the Sandwich Islands, where his father, Rev. T. Dwight Hunt, was a missionary. His father was a native of Rochester, N. Y., was educated at Yale college, and was for many years a minister of the gospel, a power for good wherever his influence was felt. For seven years he was located in California, doing evangelistic work. He died in New York at the advanced age of seventy-four years. His wife's death occurred some years previous to his. She was a native of Newark, New Jersey, where they were married, her maiden name being Mary Hedges.

The first eight years of James R. Hunt's life were spent in California. The next move the family made was to New York, and from there he went to Marquette county, Wisconsin, locating near Portage City. Thus his boyhood experience was diversified, being passed in the far west, the east and in the middle northern state of Wisconsin. When he was twenty-one years of age he was united in marriage to Miss Evelyn M. Bangs, a daughter of Alba Bangs, of Oxford, Wisconsin. The fruit of their union is seven children, whose names in order of birth are as follows: William B., a missionary in Korea, who was educated at Lake Forest University at Lake Forest, Illinois, and Princeton Seminary, at Princeton, New Jersey; Mary C., the wife of Robert Evans, a missionary in China; Henry H., educated at Wooster University, at Wooster, Ohio, and is now a resident of Moline, Illinois; and Charlotte, Laura L., Gertrude M., and J. Raymond, at home.

Mr. Hunt is a public-spirited man, interested in educational matters and all that tends to promote the general welfare of his community. For years he has been a member of the school board. He is politically a Republican and religiously a Presbyterian. He joined the Presbyterian church in Oxford, Wisconsin, and he has remained a consistent church member, regularly attending services.

ALLEN S. GUM.

Allen S. Gum, now living retired at his old home adjoining the town of Marseilles, LaSalle county, is a native of Rockingham county, Virginia, his birth having occurred upon the plantation owned by his father, August 25, 1832. The latter, Norton Gum, as well as his father, Captain James Gum, were likewise natives of Rockingham county. The mother of our subject was Sarah, daughter of Joseph Shoup, who was of German ancestry. In 1836 Norton Gum concluded to try his fortunes in the west, and coming to LaSalle county he located not far from Streator. Two years later his death occurred, and subsequently his widow became the wife of William Richey, who owned a small farm adjoining the limits of Marseilles. One daughter was born of this union, namely, Harriet Richey. After the death of the senior Mr. Richey his widow went to Indiana and made her home with a daughter until her death. The children of Norton Gum and his wife Sarah, nee Shoup, were: Catherine and Harvey, both of whom died at the age of five years; Steven M., who married Anna Harris; Serena P., who, on September 20, 1838, married John Richey; Diana, who became the wife of Amasa G. Cook; St. Clair, who married Julia E. Reniff; Joseph S., who married Cornelia Bradford; John, who married Ada Wilson; Allen S., who married Abby J. Mullen; and Harriet, who became the wife of Charles Van Auher.

As he was but four years of age when his parents removed to this county, Allen S. Gum has but few associations or memories of any other home, and has consequently been identified entirely with the welfare of this section. Until he was seventeen years of age he resided with his mother on the farm near Marseilles, his time being spent largely in the local schools, where he gained a liberal education.

In August, 1862, Mr. Gum enlisted in the defense of the Union in Company C, Seventy-second Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Captain James (now of Chicago) and Colonel Staring. After being mustered into the service the young man proceeded with his regiment to Paducah, Kentucky, and was then ordered to join the Union

forces in their memorable siege of the city of Vicksburg. After that great struggle he became ill and was sent to the hospital, but as soon as possible he rejoined his regiment and participated in a number of more or less important engagements. Exposure and the general hardships of army life once more laid him low, and for weeks he was in the hospitals at Louisville, Kentucky, and Keokuk, Iowa. He was finally mustered out and given his honorable discharge. Returning to Marseilles, he purchased a tract of thirty acres near the town, and has sold off a portion of the land. There are large gravel and sand banks of this property, and for years the owner has derived a substantial income from this source, as the sand is desirable for building purposes, while the gravel is extensively employed in the construction of graveled roads.

In his political convictions Mr. Gum is a Republican. Fraternally he is a member of the Joseph Woodruff Post, No. 281, Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1866 the marriage of Allen S. Gum and Miss Abby J. Mullen was celebrated in Ottawa. Four sons and two daughters have been born of this union, namely: Erasmus M., Harvey, George S., Charles Newcome, Kittie A., and Hazel Lillie. The three younger children are at home, and the elder ones are enterprising young men who are making their own way in the world, and reflect great credit upon their parents. Mrs. Gum is a daughter of William and Abby (Crane) Mullen, and was born and reared in the Buckeye state.

LUDWIG H. MAASS.

Ludwig Herman Maass, one of the well known, prosperous German-American farmers of South Ottawa township, LaSalle county, identified with this county since 1870, is a native of Prussia, Germany, born June 3, 1843, a son of Peter and Sophia (Schrader) Maass, who passed their entire lives in their native land. Ludwig H. attended school, according to the German custom, until he was fourteen, and was then put to a trade. He worked at his trade, that of tailor, until 1868, with the exception of time spent in the army. He served in the German army as a member of Gager Battalion, No. 2, Greifswald Pommern, for a period of twenty-two months, making an honorable record. In 1868 he sailed from Hamburg for New York, being eleven days in making the voyage, and from New York directed his way to Bourbon, Indiana, where he worked for six months. After that he spent some time in Chicago, and in 1870 came to LaSalle county, locating in Ottawa, where for ten years he worked for Fisk & Been, the leading tailors of that place, and five years for Mr. Steinmetz. At the

end of this time he bought his farm, one hundred and forty-three acres of fine land, three miles and a half from Ottawa, well improved with good buildings, fences, etc., and conveniently arranged for successfully carrying on general farming.

Mr. Maass was married in Germany to Miss Maria Hannemann Jurgens, a daughter of Carl and Christena (Jurgens) Hannemann, natives of Germany. She was born November 8, 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Maass are the parents of five children, namely: Alma, wife of Martin Oleson, of Marseilles, Illinois, who has three children, one son and two daughters; Bertha, the wife of William Schuette, of Brookfield, Illinois; Otto J., who is married, has one daughter and is engaged in farming in Fall River township, LaSalle county; and Hermann and Peter, at home.

Politically Mr. Maass is somewhat of an independent, but affiliates for the most part with the Democratic party. He favors education, religion and general reform, and has reared his family to occupy useful positions in society.

CHARLES W. LONG.

Lying along the public highway, two and three-quarters miles from Wedron and seven miles northeast of Ottawa, is the fine farm owned and occupied by Charles W. Long, one of the well-known and popular citizens of Rutland township, LaSalle county.

Mr. Long belongs to a family that has for many years been identified with this county, his grandfather, Christopher Long, having been one of its early pioneer settlers. Lewis Long, the father of Charles W., was born in LaSalle county in 1825. He was married to Miss Emily Barber, a native of New York state, and a daughter of L. E. Barber. The fruits of their union have been eight children, seven of whom are living at this writing, viz.: Eugene C., of LaSalle county; Emma F., wife of G. J. States, of this county; Charles W., whose name initiates this review; Ruth Inez, wife of George Finkle, who resides on the old Long homestead, near Marseilles; Bertha A., wife of F. Spencer, of Rutland township, LaSalle county; Lewis Walter, and Arthur F. The father of this family has long been recognized as one of the successful and substantial men of the county.

Charles W. Long was born on the old Long homestead, in Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, August 8, 1862. He was reared and educated in his native township, and from boyhood has devoted his energies to farming. He has for some years past given no little attention to the stock business, making a specialty of raising a high grade of cattle. Politically he gives his support to the Republican party.

October 18, 1888, Mr. Long married Miss Mary Etta Clark, of LaSalle county, daughter of Richard and Mary (Parr) Clark. They have two children—Harry L., born July 23, 1891; and Ethel Esther, born January 7, 1899.

FRANCIS A. FROST.

For more than half a century the Frost family to which the subject of this sketch belongs has been represented in Ottawa. S. L., the father of Francis A., was of English extraction, though New York state was the place of his birth. For some time he lived in Michigan, in which state he married Miss Onilla Shaw, and in 1847 they removed to Ottawa, coming the entire distance in a covered wagon. Mr. Frost was a ship carpenter by trade, but after becoming a citizen of this town he devoted himself to general carpentering. He died in California soon after the close of the civil war, and his wife lived to attain the age of three-score years. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Francis A. Frost was born in Three Rivers, Michigan, March 20, 1846, and is one of six children born to his parents. The others are Mrs. Josephine Toobs, of Ashtabula, Ohio; Agnes, wife of Judge E. Nugen, of Idaho; Fernando, a resident of California; Mrs. Belle Hulsey, who died in Ohio; and Edward, who died in Texas. The education of F. A. Frost was obtained in the public schools of Ottawa, and when the civil war broke out with the enthusiasm of youth he was determined to enlist as a soldier. He had his name enrolled as a private of Company I, One Hundred and Thirty-eighth Illinois Infantry. He served his time out in this regiment and then re-enlisted in Company A, Third Illinois Cavalry, under Captain Sanders. He made a good record as a soldier, and for years has been an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He also belongs to the K. of P., I. O. O. F., A. O. U. W., and other orders. He is a second lieutenant in the local branch of Knights of Pythias.

For a period of thirteen years Mr. Frost served most creditably as a member of the Ottawa police force, and in 1889 he entered the employ of the government as a mail carrier. This line of business he followed for four years and seven months, then resigned his position. In his political views he is a stalwart Republican, devoted to the interests of the party under whose beneficial and conservative policy this nation was reconstructed and made a power, as never before, among the nations of the world, subsequent to the great civil war.

Mr. Frost has been twice married. The wife of his youth was Miss Sarah C. Lightfoot, of this place, to whom he was wedded December 17,

1867. She departed this life in 1872, leaving one child named Ora, who is now the wife of James Dick, of Joliet, Illinois. In 1874 Mr. Frost married Miss Eliza Kain, of Ottawa, who passed away in 1895. A son and a daughter were born to this union, namely: Agnes Delbridge, whose home is in South Ottawa; and Fernando, who is a painter by trade and engaged in his calling in this place.

FRANK GENTLEMAN.

LaSalle county has had no more useful, patriotic citizens among her inhabitants from the days when it was a wilderness to the present time than the family of which Frank Gentleman is a sterling representative. His paternal grandfather was a native of England, but at an early day in the history of the United States transferred his allegiance to the land of the free, and was thenceforth a resident of the Green Mountain state.

William Gentleman, the father of our subject, was born in Orange county, Vermont, in 1805, and was reared to maturity there, receiving a liberal education for that day and place. In 1833 he determined that he would seek his fortune in the new west, and coming to Illinois located in Fall River township, a portion of which was heavily timbered at that time. Making a careful selection of land, he continued to dwell upon the property thus judiciously chosen until he was summoned to the home beyond, in 1893. He made good improvements upon his farm, and gave much attention to the raising of live stock, in which he was very successful. The unpretentious house which he occupied at first gave place to a substantial one of stone, and few better or more commodious farm houses are to be found in the county to-day than this one, now occupied by the subject of this review. The wife and mother, whose maiden name was Dorinda Harden, also was a native of the Green Mountain state. Daisy, her elder daughter, is the wife of John E. Muir, of Fall River township. Willard, the eldest son, is a prominent attorney at law in Chicago; James, the proprietor of the St. Hubert Chop House in Chicago; Rena, who married C. D. Basore, who owns one of the finest fruit farms in LaSalle county.

Frank Gentleman was born in Fall River township, February 25, 1866, and, being the youngest son, he remained with his parents on the home farm after some of the elder ones had embarked in the battle of life elsewhere. During the winter season he attended the district schools, and later the Ottawa grammar school. More and more he relieved his father of the cares and management of the homestead, until he was the practical head of affairs, and when death claimed his venerable parents he very naturally continued in his accustomed way of doing things. He has known

no other home than this, his birthplace, now one of the most desirable farms in the township. Of late years he has given much attention to the raising of Norman horses, Short-horn cattle, and Poland-China hogs, keeping his farm thoroughly stocked with high grades. Business enterprise and well-directed talents are rapidly bringing him to the front ranks of the agriculturists and financiers of LaSalle county, and his future is one of great promise.

In political matters Mr. Gentleman is a stanch Democrat, taking an active interest in local elections and using his influence for the men who in his estimation are best qualified to carry out the wishes of the people. For two years he served as the assessor of this township, and in 1896 was honored by being elected as the supervisor of this district. Upright and just, possessing worthy principles and a genuine desire to see the right triumph, he enjoys the good will and high opinion of every one who has the pleasure of his acquaintance.

THOMAS HOUGAS.

Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, includes among its best class of farmers a number of men who are of Norwegian descent, and who inherit to a marked degree the characteristics which contribute to the success of that nationality.

Goodman Hougas, the father of Thomas Hougas, was born in Norway, and when a youth came to America and settled in Illinois. He was married in New York to Miss Julia Madland, and they became the parents of eleven children, of whom five are now living: Isabella, wife of O. Lewis; Thomas, the subject of this sketch; Daniel, of Pottawattamie county, Iowa; John, also of Iowa; and Caroline Bower, of Sheridan, Illinois. Three of their children died in infancy and three daughters after they were grown,—Elizabeth Lewis, Sarah Selle and Julia Richards. Both parents died in the prime of life,—the mother at the age of thirty-six years, the father in 1849, at the age of forty-nine. He was an elder in the Church of the Latter Day Saints.

Thomas Hougas was born in Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, December 2, 1836, and was reared and educated in his native county. Thrift and industry were early instilled into him. Being left an orphan at an early age, he was thrown upon his own resources, and the success he has made in life is due to his own efforts. He has a farm of two hundred and seventy-nine acres on section 14, Miller township, which is highly cultivated and improved with excellent buildings, the whole comprising a most desirable and model rural place.

Mr. Hougas was married in 1858, in Miller township, to Miss Harriet Elizabeth Teal, a native of Dutchess county, New York, and a daughter of Edward Teal, an early settler of LaSalle county. The fruits of their union have been eleven children, the record of whom is as follows: Joseph; Daniel C.; Ida, wife of William Gallup; Nathan Alma; John B.; George A.; Charles M.; Susan May; Nathaniel, who died at the age of two years; Zenus Melvin, who died in infancy; and Emma Jane, who was the wife of Oliver Hayer, Jr., and died in 1897, at the age of thirty-nine years.

Mr. Hougas has long been identified with the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, in which he is a minister of high standing. Politically he is a Republican, and for fifteen or twenty years has been a member of the school board.

FREDERICK RICHARDS.

One of the most extensive land-owners in LaSalle county is Frederick Richards, whose possessions aggregate twenty-two hundred acres. The life history of such a man well deserves a place in this volume, for his example should serve as a source of inspiration to young men who are forced to enter upon a business career without capital. Strong determination, great diligence and unfaltering perseverance brought to Mr. Richards the splendid success which now crowns his efforts and which makes him one of the wealthy men of his adopted county.

A native of Prussia, Germany, he was born in September, 1828, and in the schools of the Fatherland he acquired his education, pursuing his studies until fourteen years of age. He then entered upon an apprenticeship to the cooper's trade, serving a four-year term, during which time he thoroughly mastered the business, becoming an expert workman. On the expiration of that period he came to America, believing that in the New World better opportunities and advantages were afforded young men than in the older countries of Europe. After a voyage of forty-seven days he landed in New York city, and thence proceeded to Illinois, making the journey by way of the canal to Buffalo, New York, and thence by the Great Lakes to Chicago. He completed the journey to Ottawa by the Illinois and Michigan canal, arriving at his destination in the summer. Soon afterward he secured employment with a Mr. Hoffman, who was engaged in the coopering business, his work being to make pork and flour barrels and butter firkins. Engaged in that service, Mr. Richards spent two years in Eagle township, LaSalle county, and subsequently turned his attention to farming, devoting his

Frederick Richards

energies to the cultivation of the fields through the day, while in the evenings he worked at his trade.

In 1851 Mr. Richards made his first purchase of land, consisting of one hundred acres, in the township of Bruce. In 1852 he began the development of the tract, and in addition carried on work at his trade. His energy and ability enabled him to so prosecute his labors that he derived therefrom a good income, and as his financial resources increased he extended the boundaries of his farm until it comprised one hundred and forty acres. In 1861 he made an additional purchase of two hundred and forty acres, and upon his farm, then comprising more than half a section, he began feeding cattle and hogs. The new branch of business also proved a profitable one, and, as stock brought good prices through the war, he made considerable money and invested it very judiciously. In 1863 he purchased another tract, of one hundred and sixty acres, in Bruce township, making five hundred and forty acres in all, and at different times he has added to his landed possessions until he now has twenty-two hundred acres of valuable land. His last purchase was made in 1894, when he became the owner of what is known as the Payne farm—a tract of two hundred and seventy-six acres. His home farm comprises five hundred acres, and is one of the most desirable country residences in this section of Illinois, being improved with all the accessories and conveniences of the model farm. A good residence, spacious barns and large cattle sheds are found upon the place, and the well tilled fields yield to the owner a golden tribute in return for his care and labor. One of his purchases consisted of eighty acres, a part of which was within the corporation limits of Streator. This he has laid out in town lots, and it is known as the Richards addition. One of his valuable farms is situated in Livingston county. He has been one of the successful cattle-feeders of Bruce township, LaSalle county, feeding as high as five hundred head of cattle in a year and about one thousand head of hogs. His business interests have been well conducted. He follows progressive methods, his practical common sense readily selecting what is best in the new theories that are advanced in regard to farming and stock-raising. He has ample shed room for the shelter of cattle and hogs through the winter and during inclement weather, which insures good animals, well fitted to be placed upon the market.

In addition to his extensive agricultural interests Mr. Richards has also carried on other lines of business, and is to-day the owner of a good grain elevator at the town of Richards. He handles all kinds of grain and is doing a large and profitable business in that way. He has been a stockholder and director in the Union National Bank, at Streator, since its organization, and his sound judgment has contributed in no small measure to

its success. His systematic methods, his unfailing energy and his reliability, which is above question, are the characteristics which have brought to him wealth and gained him a position among the leading business men of La-Salle county.

In 1851 Mr. Richards was united in marriage to Miss Leah Croty, a native of Germany, but at that time a resident of LaSalle county. They had one son, William, now a prosperous farmer of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county. The mother died in 1856, and Mr. Richards afterward married Mary Graham, by whom he had the following named children: Thomas, Mary, Alexander, Louis, Walter, Charles, and two who died in infancy, named James and Fred.

In his political views Mr. Richards is independent, voting for the man of his choice, regardless of party affiliations. He has served as commissioner of highways for a period of twelve years, his long continuance in office well indicating his fidelity to duty. In 1897 he was appointed postmaster of Richards. His duties of citizenship have ever been faithfully performed, and in all life's relations his well known integrity has won him confidence and respect.

J. B. BAILEY.

The proprietor of the Ottawa livery, feed and sale stable, J. B. Bailey is one of the native sons of LaSalle county, and has spent his whole life within its boundaries. He is well and favorably known, not only in Ottawa, but in various parts of the county, and bears an excellent reputation as a business man and worthy citizen.

The father of the above-named gentleman was a native of Ireland, born in April, 1812; but he left the land of his birth when he was a youth of about sixteen years, and in 1828 sailed for America, the land of promise. For some time he lived in Oswego, New York, after which he proceeded to Illinois. Arriving in this state in 1835, he settled in LaSalle county, and years afterward he took up his residence in Ottawa. In 1836 Mr. Bailey served on the committee which built the first Catholic church erected in Ottawa.

J. B. Bailey was born in 1854, during the period that his parents resided in LaSalle county, and when he had reached a suitable age he commenced attending the common schools. Industry and economy were among the lessons which he thoroughly mastered in his youth, and these principles carried out in his later life were the foundations of his present prosperity. Many years ago he embarked in the livery business, and within his spacious stables can be found a large assortment of horses and vehicles, including

carriages, both single and double, hacks, picnic wagons, etc. In political matters Mr. Bailey is a Democrat, and fraternally he is associated with the Woodmen of America.

When he was a young man of about twenty-three years, in 1877, Mr. Bailey married Miss Cathrine A. O'Conner. This estimable couple have a very nice family, comprising five sons and three daughters, whose names, in the order of birth, are as follows: Christopher R., Elmer E., James B., Mary L., Catherine E., Alice Estella, William Francis, and Edmund Joseph Robert.

BYRON A. ROATH.

Byron A. Roath, one of the brave boys who wore the blue through the trying years of the civil war, has been an honored inhabitant of Marseilles since the close of that dreadful strife. He is a native of Lockport, Niagara county, New York, his birth having occurred October 19, 1842. His parents, Mason and Hannah (Swift) Roath, were likewise born and reared in that town, where they continued to reside until about 1845. The father was of Teutonic extraction, as his great-grandfather was a native of Germany, while the mother of our subject, a daughter of James Swift, of the Empire state, was of Scotch descent.

When he was three years old Byron A. Roath was taken to Michigan, where his parents carried on a farm on a school section of land for five years. At the expiration of that period the family located near Adrian, Michigan, and there our subject attended school. His military life began in 1861, when he enlisted in Company F, Ninth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, Captain George K. Newcomb and Colonel W. W. Duffield being in command of his company and regiment. That winter was spent in camp at Louisville, Kentucky, and the following spring the regiment was sent to Elizabethtown, where Mr. Roath's company was detached, and, going to Nolin, Kentucky, participated in the battles of Murfreesboro, July 13, 1862; Lavergne, Tennessee, December 27, 1862; Stone River, Tennessee, December 29 to 31, 1862, and January 1 and 2, 1863; Chickamauga, Georgia, September 19 and 20, 1863; Mission Ridge, November 25, 1863; Rocky Face Ridge, Georgia, May 8, 1864; Resaca, Georgia, May 14, 1864; Dallas, May 27, 1864; Kenesaw, June 25, 1864; Chattahoochie River, July 3 to 6, 1864; siege of Atlanta, July 22 to August 25, 1864; and Jonesboro, Georgia, September 1, 1864. With his regiment our subject was then ordered to Chattanooga to take charge of the deserters and bounty-jumpers, and later served under General Grant, and in the Army of the Cumberland. At the battle of Stone River he was taken prisoner by the forces of General

Wheeler, but fortunately was released at the end of thirty-six hours on parole, and sent to Nashville, Tennessee. In December, 1864, he and his comrades veteranized and continued actively engaged in the war for the preservation of the Union until peace was declared, being mustered out in June, 1865. He was a brave, efficient and thoroughly reliable soldier, prompt and cheerful in the performance of his duties, and fully merited the high esteem in which he was held by his comrades and superiors alike. From 1878 until 1888 Mr. Roath was a member of Company A, Twelfth Battalion, Illinois National Guard, commencing as first lieutenant and served in that capacity for six years. He was then elected captain and served until the company was disbanded.

In October, 1865, Mr. Roath came to Marseilles, where he has uninterruptedly dwelt during the intervening years. He had mastered the trade of mason and plasterer, and continued to follow this calling for some ten years. He then embarked in the mercantile business, keeping a general line of goods, and for fifteen years he was very prosperous as a merchant. Then elected justice of the peace, he held that office acceptably to all concerned for twelve years, and for two years served as an alderman, representing the third ward in the town council, and being elected on the Republican ticket. He is an ardent admirer of the principles of that party, and has been a member of the county central and township committees. For some time he has conducted a general insurance and real estate business, besides being a notary public. Being interested in the Covenant Mutual Benefit Association, he was one of its directors for three years. Socially he is affiliated with Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M., and Ottawa Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and Joseph Woodruff Post, No. 281, G. A. R.

Soon after his return from the battle-fields of the south Mr. Roath married Miss Amanda A. Bangham, daughter of John Bangham, of Marshall, Michigan, and they have two living children, namely: Anna A., now the wife of M. L. Robinson, of Marseilles; and June A., an enterprising young man, who is still living at home with his parents.

JACOB H. BAISCH.

This prominent citizen of Ottawa, LaSalle county, was born November 15, 1858, in this place, which he has always looked upon as his home. He is a son of Jacob Baisch, who was born in Germany, where he passed twenty-seven years of his life. Then crossing the Atlantic, he landed in New York city, where he resided for some time. While there he married

Miss Caroline Raisling, and in 1850 they came to Ottawa. Later, in 1888, this worthy couple removed to Madison county, Nebraska. The father is a loyal citizen of this his adopted country, and reared his children to the same high standard of patriotism. Two of his sons are now living in Nebraska,—Joseph in the town of Broken Bow, Custer county, and Fred in Madison, Madison county. The only daughter, Christiana, is the wife of William Fletcher.

Jacob H. Baisch, of this sketch, is fortunate in being almost equally proficient and familiar with both the English and German languages. After completing his public school education in Ottawa he commenced learning the trade of cigarmaker, at which calling he was employed from 1874 until 1888. He was associated with W. F. Fletcher in the cigar business from 1886 to 1888, and met with success, and since 1888 he has been located at 800 Jackson street in the saloon business.

At the age of twenty-five years Mr. Baisch married Miss Adaline Meyer, a daughter of Joseph Meyer, of this town. They have one child, Lottie B., now in her fourteenth year, and a promising student in the local schools. Following the example of his father, Mr. Baisch is an ardent adherent of the Republican party. Socially he is identified with the German Benevolent Order and the United American Workmen. He enjoys the friendship of a large circle of acquaintances, who one and all united in wishing him well and in praising his sterling qualities.

WILLIAM S. REDDICK.

This gentleman is one of the popular citizens and successful farmers of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, and also belongs to that class of brave men whose ranks are each year being thinned,—the veterans of the civil war.

William S. Reddick was born in Washington, D. C., in 1841, and is of Irish descent. His father, James Reddick, was born on the Emerald Isle, son of William Reddick, and when a lad of six years accompanied his parents to America. In this country he grew up, and here married Miss Margaret Wise, who was born and reared in Georgetown, across the river from Washington, D. C. They made their home in the east until 1858, when the family came west to Illinois and settled in LaSalle county, north of Ottawa. On his father's farm William S. was early taught lessons of industry and economy, and soon after he came to this state he engaged in farming on his own account, an occupation in which he has since been engaged, his location being in Otter Creek township.

At the age of twenty-eight Mr. Reddick married Miss Matilda Wakey, who was born near South Ottawa and who is the daughter of William Wakey, an early settler of LaSalle county. Mr. and Mrs. Reddick have six children, viz.: Lulu Weber, a successful music teacher; Maggie, wife of James Armstrong, of Streator, Illinois; Birdie, wife of Charles Gerry, of Otter Creek township; Mamie, at home; William Clifford, of Streator; and James, who married Miss Carrie L. Baker, daughter of Christian Baker. The Reddick family attend worship in the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically Mr. Reddick is a Democrat.

JOHN L. CLARK.

We have now to consider the career of a pioneer and the son of a pioneer,—a man who, with the good example of an honest, intelligent and enterprising father before him, has made his way to a position of prominence in the business and social circles of LaSalle county, along lines which commend him to his fellow citizens and assure him that self-satisfaction belongs of right to the man whose aims are high, whose methods are good and whose success is in every way praiseworthy.

Such a man is John L. Clark, of Ottawa, Illinois, a son of the late Hon. James Clark, one of the most prominent men in this part of the state. James Clark, father of John L. Clark, was born in Ashburnham parish, Sussex, England, September 9, 1811, a son of James and Ann (Westen) Clark, and died at Utica, Illinois, in 1888. He learned the coachmaker's trade in England, and in 1830 came to the United States and located at Grafton, Ohio. After farming there four years he came to Utica, Illinois, and in 1835 bought two hundred and forty acres of land. He lived in a log house for ten years. He was contractor for a portion of the Illinois & Michigan canal, which work he finished in 1848. In 1849 he was appointed first postmaster of Utica, and held the office continuously for fourteen years. He began the manufacture of hydraulic cement in 1845. Later his son, John L. Clark, was associated with him in the business, which reached an annual production of one hundred thousand barrels. Under the firm name of James Clark & Son they bought grain extensively at Utica from 1860 until 1878. From 1867 until 1869 they manufactured stoneware pottery. In 1869 they became associated with William White and began the manufacture of sewer pipe and drain tile, the first factory of the kind of any importance in the county, and they continued until 1878, when they leased the property and retired from the business. As early as 1852 James Clark & Son commenced the shipment of sand from Utica to St. Louis for the

manufacture of glass; also large quantities were shipped to the different iron manufacturers. They continued this business until 1877. In 1883 the hydraulic cement enterprise passed into the control of a joint stock company, of which Mr. Clark was president. Upon the completion of the Rock Island Railroad, in 1853, Mr. Clark was made its agent, a position which he held for many years. He was long a member of the board of supervisors of LaSalle county, and he was a member of the Illinois legislature in 1870-71 and served on the committee on canals and on other committees of equal importance. He was a man of strict business integrity and of honest, upright principles, as well as of indomitable will and tireless energy.

He was twice married,—first to Charlotte Sargent, a native of England, who died August 12, 1877; and his second wife was Mary J., nee Cary. James Clark and Charlotte Sargent were married September 18, 1830, and they had children as follows: John L., born in Ohio, July 8, 1832; James, born in Ohio, November 4, 1833, died August 4, 1845; Charlotte, born April 29, 1838, married John B. Peckham, and is now a widow living at Danville, Illinois; Ann W., born in Illinois, December 31, 1841, died March 27, 1848.

John L. Clark attended school in the old county court house at Ottawa. The teacher was a Mrs. Towell. Later he attended the Mount Palatine Academy, in Putnam county, Illinois. After leaving school he assisted his father in the hydraulic cement business at Utica, and in time became his partner. He was connected with the enterprise until 1879; in 1882 he moved to Iowa and engaged in farming on a tract of seven hundred and twenty acres of land in Hancock county, which he purchased. In 1888 he returned to Illinois and located at Ottawa, and has since given his time to the supervision of his general business interests. He was elected supervisor in 1872 and served two terms.

Mr. Clark was married October 29, 1856, to Miss Julia Hardy, a daughter of Truman Hardy, of Utica township. Mrs. Clark was born in Vermont, October 29, 1834. Her great-grandfather, Lemuel Hardy, was born in 1737 and died in 1813. The grandfather, Silas Hardy, born March 13, 1763, served as captain in the war of 1812, and died December 6, 1827. Truman Hardy, the father of Mrs. Clark, was born at Monkton, Vermont, June 4, 1792, served in war of 1812, and died in Utica township, November 22, 1869.

The following brief mention of Mr. Clark's children will be found of interest: J. Truman is a graduate of the Northwestern University and is a dentist living and practicing in Chicago; Charlotte became the wife of E. G. Osman, a publisher of Chicago; George H. was graduated with the degree

of M. D. at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, and took special courses in the hospitals of London, England, Vienna, Austria, and is practicing his profession at Humboldt, Iowa; Jessie married T. J. Lynch, a prominent merchant of Ottawa, Illinois; and Julia lives with her parents.

GEORGE HACKSHAW.

The broad acres and pleasant rural home of the subject of this sketch, George Hackshaw, are located in Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, not far distant from the town of Streator. Mr. Hackshaw is a native of the county in which he lives. He was born November 14, 1852, the son of a prosperous and highly respected pioneer of the county, John Hackshaw, a native of England. John Hackshaw was married at Toronto, Canada, to Miss Elizabeth Jensen, a native of Glasgow, Scotland. Their union was blessed in the birth of six children, namely: Jane McCormick, of Chicago, Illinois; John F., of Streator, Illinois; Mary S.; Satie S.; Corwiecher, who passed away in childhood; and George, whose name introduces this sketch. In LaSalle county the parents spent the greater part of their lives and died, the father passing away in the prime of life; the mother lives in Streator. She is an energetic, industrious woman, of great strength of character, and early instilled into her children right principles of living. The home farm comprised three hundred and twenty acres, and on it the family were reared.

George Hackshaw early became familiar with all kinds of farm work, and on reaching adult years engaged in farming for himself. He owns a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres, on which he raises the usual crops of this locality, and where he is interested in the stock business.

Mr. Hackshaw was married May 17, 1894, at Streator, Illinois, to Miss Minnie Willard, a native of Chicago, Illinois, and the daughter of William J. Willard, deceased.

Politically Mr. Hackshaw is known as a Republican. He may well be classed as one of the best citizens of the township, for he shares the respect and confidence of his fellow men.

THEODORE WEBERLING.

Theodore Weberling, superintendent of the water works and electric light plant of Peru, Illinois, was born in Hanover, Germany, February 7, 1849. His parents were Frederick and Carolina (Groetch) Weberling, who came to the United States in 1853, and located in Peru, where they spent the

remainder of their lives. The father was a carpenter, who worked many years in the Peru Plow and Wheel Works. Both were members of the Evangelical Lutheran church, and are held in kindly remembrance. The father died in 1875, and the mother survived him but ten years. They had but two children, the elder, Henry, dying after coming to Peru.

Theodore Weberling was but little more than four years old when he became a resident of Peru. At the age of thirteen he was taken from the public school and placed with a harnessmaker to learn the craft. Here he remained five years, and the succeeding five years were spent as a journeyman at his trade, mostly in Atlanta and Galesburg, both in Illinois. Returning to Peru he opened a saloon, which he personally conducted sixteen years, and in 1891 retired permanently from the business. In 1888 the Peru electric light plant was established, and he was placed in the management of it. Three years later this plant was purchased by the city, and he was continued in the management, while the same year the waterworks were built, and he was made superintendent of them when they were put in operation the following January. About this time he was appointed to the office of street commissioner and still holds the several positions, giving to them his whole time and attention, and discharging the duties in a highly satisfactory manner. He favors the Lutheran church, and is a Republican in politics. He is an active worker in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Mystic Workers of the World. He was married in 1878 to Miss Bertha, daughter of Albian Smith, and five children have been born to them,—Antoinette, Alvina, August, Edward and Max.

EDWARD S. PEDDICORD.

Among the native sons of Manlius township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch, Edward S. Peddicord, who owns one hundred and sixty acres of fine land and is classed with the prosperous farmers of his locality.

Mr. Peddicord was born March 4, 1862, son of Edward and Elizabeth (Johnson) Peddicord, prominent residents of this county for over forty-six years, now both deceased. They were the parents of the following named children: William D., a resident of Dallas county, Iowa; Lewis E., of Chicago, Illinois; Willis P., who died in childhood; Charles J., of Marseilles, LaSalle county; Edward S., whose name introduces this sketch; Milton B.; Isabel, deceased; Ami J., of Story county, Iowa; Jannie, of Marseilles.

Edward S. was reared in his native county and educated in its public

schools, and has all his life been engaged in farming. His farm is located three miles from Seneca, is under a high state of cultivation, and is improved with modern residence, large barn, fine grove and orchard, etc. In short, it is one of the most desirable farms in this vicinity.

Mr. Peddicord was married at Ottawa, Illinois, May 19, 1886, to Miss Nora Mayers, a daughter of John and Barbara Mayers; and to them have been born six children, whose names in order of birth are Arthur Frank, Louise, John, Isabelle, Eunice and Joseph.

In his political affiliations Mr. Peddicord is Republican. He is now serving his fourth year as a member of the school board.

WILLIAM HOLLY.

For half a century or more William Holly, a prominent citizen of Peru, has resided in the neighborhood of this town, and during his life in LaSalle county he has been a witness of much of its development from the wilderness. He has given his attention to various lines of business since he reached man's estate, and has prospered in nearly all of his undertakings.

The grandfathers of our subject, on both sides of the house, were of German birth. Daniel Holly, the paternal grandfather, spent some years in his native land, was married there and finally emigrated to Butler county, Ohio, where he engaged in farming. The parents of our subject were Daniel and Helen (Bender) Holly, both natives of the Fatherland. They had five sons and two daughters, namely: Mary, wife of Christian Brennemann, of this county; John, of Putnam county; William, the immediate subject of this sketch; Theodore, of Putnam county; Gustav, of Kansas; Eliza, wife of Oscar Brennemann, of Putnam county; and George W., of this county. When he came to the United States Daniel Holly, Jr., was a boy, and the remainder of his youth was spent on a farm in Butler county, Ohio. With his wife and four children he came to Illinois, making the trip by boat from Cincinnati to St. Louis; thence up the Illinois river, over which he crossed and proceeded to Hennepin, Putnam county. They settled on a farm about ten miles distant from that town, and in the course of time the father accumulated considerable property. He retired about five years prior to his death, which occurred in Peru, in 1887, when he was seventy-one years of age. His widow is still living, and is now in her eighty-fourth year. In religious belief they were originally Mennonites, but Mr. Holly became a Free Thinker when he was about fifty-five years of age. For several years he served as a justice of the peace, and also acted in the capacity of road commissioner at Peru.

William Holly, of this sketch, was born in Butler county, Ohio, May 1, 1843. When he was twenty-one years of age his father gave him a team of horses, and he began farming a part of the old homestead on shares, and also ran a threshing machine. At the end of four years he went to Granville, Illinois, and clerked in a general store. Within a year the management failed, and Mr. Holly was chosen to take charge and sell out the stock, which required about a year. Then, going to Chicago, the young man purchased a new, fresh stock of goods, and opened a store of his own in Granville. After spending three years in that enterprise he sold out, at a fair profit, and in the fall of 1875 he joined his brother-in-law, Oscar Brennemann, and started a grocery store in the new building which had just been erected in Peru by the senior Mr. Holly. The firm was known as Holly & Brennemann, and that management was in existence some five years. Mr. Holly then bought out his partner's interest and continued alone in business until 1887, when he finally disposed of his stock. His next enterprise was the Peru Elevator Company, which he organized. Renting the elevator he managed it for three years, from 1890 to 1893, and then sold out.

In 1890 Mr. Holly and five other public-spirited citizens—G. D. Ladd, Theodore Weberling, G. Lassig, H. Bellinghausen and Charles Bruner—sunk an artesian well, and at a depth of about seven hundred feet a fine vein of salt water was struck. They went down further, and, reaching a depth of fourteen hundred feet, found fresh water. Pipes were put in and the well was afterward sold to the city, which built new water-works. In 1893 Mr. Holly went to California, and, stopping in Salt Lake City, he took a few plunges in the briny inland sea, and so thoroughly enjoyed the effects that he returned home with a new idea, which he proceeded to put into successful operation. Purposing to use the salt water piped from the above-mentioned well, he opened an establishment,—a bath-house for giving hot salt-water baths,—and has since enlarged the capacity of the bath-house, until there are now ten separate rooms, with all approved appliances. The ground floor is devoted to the use of men and the second story to ladies, while the basement contains a fine plunge bath, used chiefly in the summer season. Though the popularity of the bath-house is greatest during the hot weather, it receives a liberal patronage the year round.

Mr. Holly has other business interests. He is a stockholder in the Peru Plow & Wheel Company, and has served on the board of directors for this company, and also as treasurer. He is also a stockholder and director in the Peru Plow & Implement Company, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and is also interested in the Peru Shoe Company, of which he is general manager.

In politics our subject has been perfectly independent, voting for the nominee or principle in which he believed most thoroughly, and changing from one party to the other as he deemed best under public conditions. He voted for S. J. Tilden in 1876, and had cast his first vote for Lincoln, as nominee for a second term. He supported Cleveland the first time that he ran, but not liking his methods he next used his ballot in favor of Harrison. Then he reverted to Cleveland, and, lastly, he voted for McKinley, and every time the man for whom he desired the place of chief executive (since 1876) has been elected. Personally Mr. Holly has never aspired to public office. He is a member of the Peru Sharp-shooters' Society, but is not connected with any of the lodges.

In 1888 the marriage of Mr. Holly and Miss Emma Miller was solemnized. They have had three children, Arthur, Gertrude and Lillian. The last named, little Lillian, died in 1896, at the age of three years.

AMMON B. MOON.

For many years having followed farming in LaSalle county, Mr. Moon is now living retired in Streator, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He is one of the extensive land-owners of the community, and his property has all been acquired entirely through his well directed efforts. A native of Eden township, LaSalle county, he was born January 27, 1834, his parents being Albert and Elizabeth Moon. The father was born in Virginia, in 1808, and the mother's birth occurred in Kentucky, January 28, 1818. The Moon family was probably established in the Old Dominion at an early period in its history, for the paternal grandfather of our subject, who was of Scotch and English descent, was a native of that state, and there resided until after his marriage. In 1833 he became one of the pioneer settlers of Illinois, making his home in Reading township, Livingston county, until called to his final rest. Albert Moon, the father of our subject, was reared to manhood in Greene county, Ohio, and when twenty-four years of age cast in his lot with the early settlers of LaSalle county, his home being on a farm near Tonica. At the time of the Indian massacre in the Black Hawk war there was a company of sixteen organized at Ottawa to bury the victims of the savage cruelty, and Mr. Moon was among the number chosen for that purpose. In the winter of 1833 he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Boyle, a daughter of David and Rachel Boyle, who settled in Putnam county, Illinois, in 1829. Four children were born of this union: Ammon B., of this review;

Salanda, wife of Mr. Sawyer; Matilda, wife of H. B. Schuler, of Chicago, Illinois; and Jacob W., who is living at Iowa Falls, Iowa. In 1834 the father of this family disposed of his property in LaSalle county and the following year purchased a tract of land in Reading township, Livingston county. There he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred on the 19th of November, 1865.

During his infancy Ammon Moon was taken to Livingston county, where the days of his boyhood and youth were passed upon his father's farm. He assisted in its cultivation, and after acquiring a practical English education in the common schools he began farming on his own account, his early training in the fields then proving of practical value to him. He secured a farm on section 34, Eagle township, erected thereon a frame residence in the fall of 1856, and the following spring took possession of the place and began its development and improvement. Soon the land was transformed into richly cultivated fields, which yielded to the owner a golden tribute. As time passed he extended the boundaries of his place until it comprised four hundred and eighty acres, and he made excellent improvements upon it, erecting substantial buildings and replacing the first residence with a modern and commodious brick structure in 1872. At other times he has purchased property elsewhere, and in addition to the old homestead he has one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 33 and one hundred and sixty on section 27, making an aggregate of eight hundred acres. After a long and active life upon the farm, during which he won most gratifying success, he retired to private life in 1893, taking up his abode in Streator, where he is now living, surrounded with the comforts which make existence most pleasant.

On the 8th of October, 1856, Mr. Moon was united in marriage to Miss Mary E. Lyon, a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Mills) Lyon. Her father, who was born in Clinton county, Ohio, in 1818, died in Pontiac, Illinois, in 1892, and her mother, who also was a native of the Buckeye state, passed away in Pontiac, in 1882. To Mr. and Mrs. Moon were born five children, but two are now deceased, namely: Carrie, who died in infancy, and Lillie, who died at the age of five years. The three children now living are Nellie I., William A. and Estelle E. Nellie I. married William Turner and has two children,—Guy F. and Harry. In 1882 Mr. Turner passed away and his widow afterward became the wife of Dr. O. J. Raub, of Abilene, Kansas, and by this marriage there is one boy, named Stanley. Estelle E. became the wife of Dr. O. D. Holland, of Streator, and they have one son, named Parke.

Mr. Moon is one of the oldest native sons of LaSalle county, and through more than six decades he has watched with interest the progress

and improvement which have marked the onward march of time, ever bearing his part in the same. He has been a citizen loyal and true, and in the management of his business affairs he has accumulated a handsome property, which is the merited reward of his earnest, honest labors.

ROBERT N. CRAWFORD.

Robert N. Crawford, president of the Mendota National Bank, was born on a farm in Bureau county, Illinois, November 28, 1868, and represents a type of business man that is a credit to any community. He has worked his way by patient industry and the faithful discharge of the duties that came to his hand, from the humble career of a farmer lad to the position of president of one of LaSalle county's most firmly established banks, showing what the American boy is capable of. His parents were Charles and Mary A. (Liscom) Crawford, the former a native of the state of Vermont and the latter born in Massachusetts. They were united in the holy bonds of matrimony in Vermont and came west to seek their fortunes in the broad and fertile prairies of Illinois, settling, in 1849, in Bureau county, where they engaged in farming. They remained in that locality for twenty years and then moved to a farm in LaSalle county, a short distance west of Mendota, where they continued to share the vicissitudes of life until February, 1877, when the grim reaper, Death, entered their home and took from it the husband and father just as he had passed the fifty-sixth milestone in his journey of life. Left alone with a family to care for, the mother bent her energies to rearing them to lives of usefulness and honor; and how well she succeeded is well known by the citizens of Mendota, who watched with interest her noble life. She is now in her seventy-fifth year and resides on the old homestead, made dear by years of tender associations and memories.

Robert N. Crawford was the youngest of seven children and was reared on his father's farm. His love for learning was given scope and after leaving the country schools he completed the high-school course at Mendota. Farm work did not appeal to his nature as did the more exciting and active commercial life, and at the age of nineteen years he bade adieu to the monotony of farm life and took up his residence in this city. He was fortunate in securing a clerkship in the First National Bank and was well adapted to the work, remaining with the institution in that capacity for ten years, when he resigned to become the president of the Mendota National Bank. This bank was organized in July, 1897, and opened for business in September of that year with a capital stock of fifty thousand

dollars. It is one of the solid institutions of LaSalle county and has a large number of depositors.

Robert N. Crawford was united in marriage, in 1892, to Miss Mary E. Truman, a daughter of William Truman, an extensive farmer of this county. Mr. Crawford keeps intelligently posted on political subjects and renders valuable aid to the Republican cause. He is a Knight of Pythias and also a Knight Templar Mason. He is interested in all municipal matters and has been closely identified with the city's growth during recent years. He is straightforward and upright in all transactions and has won the commendation of all who have had any dealings with him.

GUSTAVE J. KEIM.

When Gustave J. Keim, a man six feet in height and finely proportioned, a man of notable military presence, takes his position at the head of his company,—a captain of the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias,—he commands the respect of all observers and is looked upon with just pride by those under his orders. He is in the prime of early manhood, as his birth occurred June 12, 1867, and Ottawa was the place of that event. He has grown to maturity in this town, receiving his education in her public schools, and since entering the world of business Ottawa has continued to be his home. The associations of his whole life thus being connected with this immediate locality, he is thoroughly patriotic and genuinely interested in everything relating to the growth and prosperity of the town.

The father of our subject, Martin Keim, was a native of Germany, born August 6, 1836. He was reared on his father's farm and in 1857, when the young man was twenty-one years of age, his senior paid three hundred dollars to the government for the release of the son from the law requiring military service. Soon afterward Martin Keim bade adieu to the Fatherland and came to America. During the civil war he enlisted in the defense of the land of his adoption, and participated in some of the worst battles of the conflict, including that of Chickamauga and the siege of Vicksburg. He served in the Twenty-fourth Illinois Infantry, his commanding officer being Colonel Hecker, who was a German and had done valiant service in the Mexican war, with General Thomas. By trade Martin Keim was a cooper, and after the close of the war he settled in Ottawa, where he found employment. Socially he was identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1866 Mr. Keim married Miss Lizzie Gabauer, likewise a native of Germany; and as the years rolled by six children came to bless their

happy home. One son died at the age of nineteen years, but the other children are still living, and are named respectively Gustave, Adam, George, Herman and Emma.

Gustave Keim, the first-born, was taken into business with his father as soon as he was old enough to be of service, and was quite young when he had mastered the trade. He has continued in the butcher business and has built up a fine reputation for honor and exactness in all his transactions. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, St. Elmo Lodge, No. 70; Humboldt Lodge, No. 555, of the Masons, and is a member of the Union Hose Company, which is organized for protection against fire. Politically he uses his franchise in favor of the principles and nominees of the Democratic party.

On the 20th of July, 1897, Mr. Keim married Miss Adeline Meyer, a well known Ottawa lady. The young couple have one child, a son, named Walter M. They have a pleasant, cosy home and have a host of friends in this place.

A. F. NICHOL.

A. F. Nichol, a farmer residing in Rutland township, LaSalle county, was born December 30, 1852, a son of John Tilton and Rebecca (Mickey) Nichol. His great-grandfather was a native of Scotland, where he was united in marriage to a Miss Hilton, by whom he had two sons and three daughters. He emigrated to America about the year 1770. John Tilton Nichol is a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Tilton) Nichol. His father was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1780 and died in 1831. His mother was born in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, in 1782 and died at her son's residence in 1854. J. T. Nichol was reared a farmer, receiving a common-school education. He left his native county and settled in Wayne county, Ohio, thence he moved to Ashland county, that state, and in June, 1845, came to LaSalle county, Illinois, and settled where he now lives, in Rutland township. He bought eighty acres of land, but has added to these until he now owns four hundred acres, and his improvements are among the best in the township. Mr. Nichol was married February 6, 1840, to Rebecca Mickey, a native of Ashland county, Ohio, born December 25, 1820, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Woodrow) Mickey. Her father was a native of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and her mother of Maryland. To Mr. and Mrs. Nichol have been born seven children, five of whom are living: Lucius R., a resident of Bates county, Missouri, who was a soldier in the civil war, a member of Ford's Cavalry, Company L, Fifteenth Regiment. He enlisted January,

J. T. Nichol

Rebecca Nichol

1862, and served until the close of the war; Marcia, wife of M. H. Trowbridge, also of Bates county, Missouri; James E., of Platte county, Nebraska; A. F., our subject; Flora B., of this township; Samantha E.; and John Orr, deceased. In politics Mr. Nichol is a Republican and has served his township as supervisor for seven years. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity. Rebecca Nichol was laid to rest February 1, 1890, at the age of seventy years.

A. F. Nichol received his preliminary education in the schools of his native township, also spent one year at the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, and is now taking a course in engineering and surveying, at Scranton, Pennsylvania. On December 30, 1879, he made a journey to Ashland county, Ohio, bringing back with him a wife. This lady was Miss Sadie Riddle, daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Dally) Riddle, born September 24, 1853. Three children have blessed their home, one of whom, Portia, was taken to the heavenly home at the tender age of five years. Ethel was born February 14, 1886. Grace was born December 24, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Nichol are highly respected residents of the community in which they live. He is a Republican and has served his party in places of trust.

SAMUEL C. WILEY.

Samuel C. Wiley, a retired farmer and lumber dealer of Earlville, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born in Somerset county, Maine, November 11, 1833, and was a son of Charles and Seraphina (Greenleaf) Wiley. His great-great-grandfather was a native of Scotland, who moved to Ireland, where the great-grandfather was born and when this lad was about twelve years old the family moved to America and settled in Massachusetts. Robert Wiley was the youngest of seven sons, and was born in the state of Maine, where he grew to man's estate and married Hannah Charles, who also was a native of Maine. Her parents came from Sweden.

Charles Wiley was born in Freiburg, Maine, March 15, 1803. He married Miss Seraphina Greenleaf, by whom he had a family of five children, namely: Samuel C.; Henry, a farmer on the old home in Freedom township; Mary Ann, who died in early life; Laura, who also died young; and Martha, the wife of David Davis, born in LaSalle county. In 1844 Charles Wiley brought his family direct from the state of Maine to Freedom township, LaSalle county, Illinois, where he and his sons developed a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He died in 1875 and was survived by his widow until 1896, who died in her eighty-sixth year. Her parents were English people, who located in Maine in the early days. Charles Wiley was one of

five brothers who settled in this county, one of whom was Dr. Samuel Wiley, of Mendota. The father also made this his home during his later years and died here. The family were adherents of the Universalist church and were upright, honorable people, highly esteemed.

Samuel C. Wiley was but eleven years of age when his parents moved to this county, which has since been his home. The advantages for obtaining a schooling at that time were very limited, as long distances must be traversed in order to reach a school, which at best was a very primitive affair and the teaching of the crudest sort. As Samuel's life was spent on a farm it was not easy to take advantage of even the opportunity thus offered, so his education was obtained chiefly from observation and reading. He remained at home until his marriage, but in the meantime had purchased a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Meriden township, which he had developed and placed in a high state of cultivation. He has been one of the most prosperous farmers in Illinois and added to his original farm until to-day he has five hundred acres of as fertile land as can be found in the state. About 1874 he entered into partnership with W. E. Hapeman and opened a lumber-yard, which he conducted eleven years, when he sold out to his partner. For the past fifteen years he has been engaged in buying and shipping live stock and has made it a profitable business.

He was united in marriage, in 1858, to Miss Mary E. Thompson, a native of New York and a daughter of Harvey I. Thompson, who came from that state to Christian county, Illinois, when Mrs. Wiley was a child and later located in this county. Their union was blessed by the birth of eight children, seven of whom are still living; Laura died when about two years old, and the seven living are Carrie, Mabel, Herbert C., Gilbert, Ruth, Rosa and George S. Mrs. Wiley was spared to her family until her fifty-third year was passed, in 1893, when she was called to enter the life everlasting. Mr. Wiley is a Knight Templar Mason and an adherent of the Democratic party. He has held a number of minor offices, acting as the supervisor of Earl and Meriden townships for seven or eight years, and in 1882 was elected to the house of representatives from this district, and was re-elected two years later.

JOSEPH KOCH, SR.

Seventy-eight years ago the birth of Joseph Koch occurred in Bavaria, Germany, the date of the event being March 21, 1821. He is a son of Michael Koch, who was a native of the same kingdom, where he was occupied in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1878, when he was about seventy-five years of age. His first wife, the mother of our subject, whose

maiden name was Barbara Baumann, departed this life in 1832. The father remarried, and his second wife lived to attain three-score and ten years. In their religious belief they were all Catholics. Both of the grandfathers of our subject were farmers, and both were upward of seventy years old at the time of death.

Joseph Koch, of this sketch, is the only survivor of his father's family. He had but one brother, Andrew by name, and one sister, Mary Ann, who married Valentine Redline, of Waterloo, Iowa; and both have passed away. In his youth our subject attended the public schools of his native land and aided in the management of the parental homestead. In 1853 he came to the United States, being accompanied by his wife, Eva Baumann, who died while they were journeying across the country and was buried in Battle Creek, Michigan. Mr. Koch became a resident of Peru, which he has since looked upon as his home. At first he worked at whatever he could find to do, in order to gain an honest livelihood. Nature had endowed him with a marked talent for music, and before very long he had plenty of occupation in teaching various kinds of instrumental music. He organized the first cornet band in Peru, as well as the first orchestra, and for years was a leader in local musical circles. His genius and ability once recognized by the citizens, he had his time fully taken up in meeting the many demands upon it, his pupils being numerous and his evenings being largely occupied in furnishing music for balls, receptions and other public occasions. Though nearing four-score years, his love for music is not a whit abated, and though he does not give lessons as formerly he finds solace and happiness in evoking sweet harmonies. The life of an artist of any profession leads away from what are termed "the practical realities," yet Mr. Koch has never failed in his duty as a citizen, and has always manifested deep interest in the public welfare. He uses his right of franchise in behalf of the Republican party.

The first marriage of Mr. Koch was celebrated in Germany, half a century ago, the lady of his choice being Miss Eva Baumann. Four children were born to them, but all died at an early age. In February, 1854, Mr. Koch and Miss Mary Ann Keupp, daughter of Kilian and Margaret Keupp, were united in wedlock. Three children blessed their union, of whom Mary, the eldest, became the wife of John Fischer and had five children,—Josie, Annie, Minnie, John and Henry. After the death of Mr. Fischer his widow married George Weber, of Peru. Joseph, the only son of our subject, is a wagonmaker by trade, is unmarried, and at present is a citizen of Leonore, Illinois. Minnie, the youngest daughter, married Frank Zadow, who was killed in a railroad accident. His widow subsequently became the wife of William Fuchs, and they have a little daughter, named Annie. The devoted wife of our subject, Mrs. Mary Ann Koch, was summoned to her reward in Febru-

ary, 1890, when she was in her seventy-third year. This worthy couple came to Peru in its early days and witnessed its gradual growth and the corresponding development of the surrounding country. Their sterling qualities won the love and friendship of those who were associated with them in any manner, and naught but the kindest feelings have always been entertained for them.

PETER A. OLSEN.

It is a fact continually receiving greater recognition that the Scandinavian race is playing a very important part in the development of the great west and northwest, and equally certain it is that no more patriotic, honest, industrious citizens can be found in the length and breadth of this fair land. For many generations the people of the Scandinavian peninsula have been noted for their peaceful, law-abiding qualities, for their uprightness of word and deed, for sincere trust in God and fraternal regard for their fellow men.

Peter A. Olsen is proud of the fact, and well he may be, that he comes of this noble race of "hardy Norsemen." His birthplace was in the picturesque town of Molde, Norway, on the same line of latitude as, and not a great distance from, the Shetland islands, north of Scotland. The date of his birth is April 1, 1868. His father, Ole Olsen, is a jeweler by trade and for thirteen years plied his calling in Chicago, thence returning to his native land, in 1893. The mother of our subject died when he was twenty-four years of age.

The education of Peter Olsen was acquired in the excellent public schools of Bergen and Christiania, Norway, and was completed in Chicago. The young man's love for journalism manifested itself when he was scarcely out of the school-room, and he served an apprenticeship to the business in the office of the Norden and later in the office of the Skandinaven, a newspaper which is published in Chicago. Having thoroughly mastered the trade and become familiar with the various departments connected with the publishing of a paper, Mr. Olsen established the Afholds-Vennen, which was first issued in Chicago, March 30, 1894. Subsequently he removed to Ottawa, in 1896, and the first local edition of this now popular journal bore date of April 4, 1896. Thus it is now entering upon the seventh year of its existence, and is no longer an experiment, as it has won its way into the hearts and homes of about fourteen or fifteen hundred Scandinavians in this vicinity and in the adjacent territory. The paper, comprising four pages, is devoted particularly to the interests of the Norwegian people and is sound and progressive in tone, advocating righteous

causes, such as temperance and disinterested American citizenship, the purity of the ballot and the nobility of labor. A brilliant future is opening before the young and ambitious editor, who seems peculiarly fitted to stand in the attitude of a leader of thought among his beloved people. In politics he is an uncompromising Republican, believing heartily in the policy of the party under whose wise guidance the ship of state breasted the stormy waves of the troublous civil-war period, and rode through breakers, scarcely less dangerous, of the "reconstruction" and great financial crises of 1873 and 1893.

On the 4th of August, 1888, Mr. Olsen and Miss Marie A. Solem were united in marriage in Chicago. They have two interesting little girls,—Caroline and Viola. Mrs. Olsen is a lady of culture and good education, and in innumerable ways she is of assistance to her husband in his important undertakings.

EDGAR S. BROWNE.

Edgar Selwyn Browne, mayor of Mendota, Illinois, was born on a farm in Oxford county, Maine, May 11, 1851. His parents were George H. and Lavina (Shaw) Browne, both natives of Boston, Massachusetts, and representatives of old New England families. The Brownes are of English origin and the Shaws are of Welsh extraction. George H. Browne was a merchant and the owner of farming land. During the civil war he was a member of the Seventeenth Maine Regiment, which he entered as a private. He was in charge of hospitals at Alexandria, Virginia, and was a contemporary of Morrill, Blaine and Hannibal Hamlin, and served in the Maine legislature in 1859 with James G. Blaine. In politics he was a Republican. After the war he carried on merchandising, also speculating in lumber and doing contract work. He died in February, 1896, at the age of seventy-two years. His widow, at this writing (1899), eighty-one years of age, resides in Mason, Maine.

Edgar S. Browne spent his boyhood days up to the age of thirteen years on a farm. He is the eldest of a family of four, and, their father being in good circumstances, all were given excellent educational advantages. Edgar S. is a graduate of Gould's academy, Bethel, Maine, and was for some time a student in the State Normal School at Farmington, Maine. He began teaching at the early age of fourteen years and taught and attended school alternately. While teaching he studied law, and was admitted to the bar of Maine in 1871. For five years he practiced law in Portland, Maine, and in 1876 he came west and located in Chicago, where he spent nearly a year, at the end of that time removing to Earlville and becoming

associated in the practice of law with his cousin, Hon. J. W. Browne, with whom he was afterward in business at Mendota. He located in Mendota in 1879, and since that date has continued here. He is what is known as a trial lawyer, and his successful career has shown him to be possessed of more than ordinary ability in this line. Politically he has always been a Democrat. In the east he filled some minor offices, and in LaSalle county, Illinois, he has been frequently honored with official position. Mr. Browne was the principal of the high school at Bethel, Maine, and in Gould's academy was professor of higher mathematics, grammar and elocution. Also he taught Latin in the last named institution. He served as justice of the peace, commissioner of deeds for Maine and New Hampshire, and was a trial justice in New Hampshire, being located in Coos county, that state, for a brief time. After coming to Mendota his first public office was that of city attorney, which position he resigned before the close of the second year. As the incumbent of that office he tried one hundred and twenty-one cases, and won each case, his salary being one hundred dollars per year! No wonder he resigned!

In 1886 he was elected a member of the lower house of the Illinois state legislature, as representative for LaSalle county; and was re-elected in 1888. He was made the chairman of the Democratic caucus of the members of house and senate that formulated the bill for the reduction of state expenses, which afterward made the state go Democratic at the polls. He was the author of a large portion of the bill which was enacted and entitled "An act to create sanitary districts and remove obstructions in the Des Plaines and Illinois rivers," which went into effect July 1, 1889, and which was of great moment and utility to the valleys of said rivers. In another issue he was influential in securing a defeat of a movement for the consolidation of the supreme court. In 1891 Mr. Browne was elected the doorkeeper for the house of representatives, and during this time participated in the great election contest for United States senator in which John M. Palmer was successful. Mr. Browne was re-elected doorkeeper in 1890, and held that position during the Democratic reapportionment of the state. In 1882 he was a member of the LaSalle County Democratic central committee. In 1888 he was chairman of the committee on permanent organization at the state Democratic convention of marching leagues, and as chairman he decided the tie vote in favor of Frank Jones, of Springfield, as the permanent president of the league. Mr. Jones afterward became assistant postmaster general under Cleveland. Mr. Browne was elected mayor of Mendota in 1897, a position he has since filled and in which he has rendered most excellent service.

Turning from his political career to his domestic life, we record that

Mr. Browne was married in 1885 to Miss Gertrude Schick, of Mendota, and the fruits of their union are two children,—Robert G. and Hazel Beatrice.

ADNEY N. TUCKER.

Adney N. Tucker, who is engaged in the livery business in Sheridan, Illinois, is a representative of one of the pioneer families of LaSalle county.

Mr. Tucker was born in Freedom township, LaSalle county, Illinois, December 26, 1850, a son of Jacob and Phoebe E. (Beem) Tucker. Jacob Tucker was born in New Hampshire, November 11, 1822, and died in Sheridan, Illinois, February 28, 1897. He came to LaSalle county, a young man, in the spring of 1845, and here, February 23, 1848, was married to Miss Phoebe E. Beem, who was born in Ohio, July 20, 1824, a daughter of Benjamin Beem. The latter removed with his family to Illinois in 1837, making the journey by wagon, and settled in Freedom township, LaSalle county, where he passed the rest of his life. After their marriage Jacob Tucker and wife settled on a farm in Freedom township, where they lived until 1871, that year removing to Sheridan, where he died, as above recorded, and where his widow still resides, at this writing being in her seventy-fifth year.

Adney N. Tucker is an only son, and has but one sister living. He was reared on his father's farm and after his marriage, in 1870, took charge of the farming operations on the homestead, later coming into possession of it and still retaining ownership. He gave his attention to agricultural pursuits until 1897, when he came to Sheridan and engaged in the livery business, which he has conducted since February 16, 1898.

Mr. Tucker was married in 1870 to Miss Olive Hall, a native of Wayne county, Iowa, and they are the parents of three children. He affiliates with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

PETER C. ANGEVINE.

Among the retired farmers of LaSalle county is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, Peter C. Angevine, of Sheridan. He is a native of the neighboring state of Indiana, born in Dearborn county, August 1, 1830, a son of James and Susan (Montfort) Angevine, the former a native of New York city, born August 1, 1777; the latter of Fishkill, Dutchess county, New York, born September 23, 1793. James Angevine was a son

of John Angevine, also a native of New York city, and a son of Daniel Angevine, who was a native of Rochelle, France. Daniel Angevine had to leave France on account of his religious views and was among the Huguenots who sought refuge from persecution in America. He was a sea captain and ship-owner and also at one time was a wine merchant. It was about 1643 that he landed in the American colonies and made a settlement in New York city, where he passed the closing years of his life, working at the trade of shoemaker. John Angevine, the grandfather of Peter C., was born and reared in New York city, and was there married to Miss Sallie Coutant, who, as her name indicates, was of French origin. They were the parents of several children, James being their only son. For thirteen years during his early life he followed the ocean, as a sailor and cooper. He was married in New York in 1812, and in 1817, accompanied by his wife and three children and his father and mother, he came west to Indiana, which had only the year previous attained to the dignity of statehood, and, selecting a location in Dearborn county, made a permanent settlement. Their children in order of birth were as follows: James A., John H., Charles E., Alletta M., Eliza A., William, Gilbert, Jane S., Peter C., Sarah L. and Addie V.

Peter C. Angevine came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in the fall of 1869, landing on the present site of Sheridan, October 27. That was before the town of Sheridan came into existence. He has since been identified with this place. His father also came to LaSalle county, but lived here only a short time, when he died and was taken back to Dearborn county, Indiana, and laid to rest by the side of his wife. Peter C. carried on farming operations here during his early residence in the county, but for some time past has lived retired.

He came to LaSalle county in the fall previous to his permanent settlement here, and November 18 married Miss Jane E. Rowe, returning with his bride to Indiana and remaining there nearly a year. Mrs. Angevine was born in Dearborn county, Indiana, July 27, 1833, a daughter of Robert and Mary (McMath) Rowe. Mr. Rowe was a Scotchman, born in Edinburgh, Scotland, January 10, 1802, and died in Sheridan, Illinois, June 10, 1879; his wife, a native of Pennsylvania, born November 21, 1804, died in Sheridan in 1857. Mr. Rowe was brought to this country when two years old by his parents, Robert and Isabelle (Mill) Rowe, their settlement being in Dearborn county, Indiana, where Robert grew up and married. He and his family came to LaSalle county, Illinois, April 5, 1838, and settled on a farm which is now covered by the town of Sheridan, where he lived for many years, carrying on agricultural pursuits. He was also a surveyor and made many of the surveys in this locality, and he was somewhat of an astronomer, too. He was a successful man in whatever he undertook, and

was well known and highly respected in this vicinity. His family comprised the following named members: Mary Ann, Isabelle M., James M., Samuel M., Jane E., Amelia, Emmeline, Alfred, and two that died in childhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Angevine had an only child, Aline A., who died at the age of five years; and they have an adopted daughter, Fannie A.

In their religious faith Mr. and Mrs. Angevine are Universalists and are identified with the church of that denomination.

WILLIAM TRUMAN.

For almost half a century William Truman and wife were honored citizens of Mendota township, LaSalle county. They literally saw the "wilderness bloom as the rose," and aided materially to this result by their own well-directed industry. Their numerous friends will peruse the history of their well-spent lives with interest, and great credit and praise is certainly due this estimable couple for the heroic manner in which they met and overcame the obstacles which confronted them at the time of their early settlement here.

The paternal grandfather of our subject bore the same Christian name. He was born in England, and died there when over three-score and ten years of age. In his early manhood he was pressed into the government service, at London, and was held on board of a man-of-war for some time. By trade he was a carpenter, and followed that vocation chiefly as a means of livelihood. He reared three children, one of whom was Robert, the father of William Truman, of this sketch. He learned the trades of carpenter and wheelwright in his youth, and in 1852 he removed to the United States. Locating in LaSalle county, he resided here for almost two-score years, working at this trade for some time. He died at the home of his son, Robert, in Daykin, Nebraska, in 1896, when in his eighty-fifth year. His wife, Elizabeth, departed this life June 21, 1884, aged seventy-four years. She was one of the four children of John Robison, a native of England and a miller and baker by trade. He lived to be over seventy years of age, dying in his native land. Mr. Truman was an Episcopalian in religious faith, while his wife was identified with the Baptist denomination at the time of her death. Three sons and three daughters were born to them, namely: William, John R., of Denver; Robert, of Daykin, Nebraska; Jane, wife of A. C. Johnston, of Denver, Colorado; Eliza, wife of David Reece, of Denver; and Lizzie, deceased, formerly the wife of William McBoyle.

William Truman was born in Lincolnshire, England, April 16, 1833, and received a limited education in the public schools. When he was a mere child he began learning the bakers and confectioners' trade and subsequently devoted his time to this calling for many years, meeting with financial success. After coming to the United States in 1852 with his newly wedded wife he located in LaSalle, whence they removed to Mendota in 1855. In this place they established a bakery and confectionery shop, and carried it on prosperously for a period of twelve years. They were the pioneers in this line of business here and enjoyed a large and remunerative patronage. After the civil war Mr. Truman and John Mundie entered into partnership and bought, sold and shipped cattle and hogs for the next ten years, one year's business alone amounting to one hundred and eighty thousand dollars.

In 1866 Mr. Truman rented the homestead where his widow now resides. The place then comprised five hundred acres, and, after renting it for ten years, he purchased three hundred acres of the tract, which he greatly improved. Forty acres of the original three hundred acres he sold for three hundred dollars an acre, and in its stead he bought a two-hundred and forty-acre farm adjoining it on the northeastern corner. In addition to this he owns residence and business property in Mendota. For many years he made a specialty of breeding and raising shorthorn cattle, and sheep of an excellent grade, and upon his farm fine stock was always to be found.

Politically Mr. Truman was a Republican, and for ten years he served as a supervisor of his home township. For eleven months during the civil war he was on scout duty, under the command of Provost Marshal Wanless, of Denver, and his enlistment was under Colonel Shivington, who was a Methodist minister in times of peace. Once, while on duty, Mr. Truman captured five men, and upon other occasions he distinguished himself for his daring and efficiency. Fraternally he was a Mason, belonging to the Mendota lodge and chapter, and to the council, and to Bethany Commandery, No. 28, K. T.

On the 20th of April, 1852, Mr. Truman and Mary Taylor were united in marriage in England. Her parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (Taylor) Taylor, were faithful members of the Methodist church. They died in England, their native country, the father in 1847, at the age of fifty-two years, and the mother in 1881, when in her eighty-fifth year. Only three of their ten children now survive, namely: Mary; Elizabeth, wife of William Clawson, of Welbourn, England; and James, who for over thirty-one years has been a citizen of Mendota.

Four sons and three daughters were born to our subject and wife. Louisa, who is unmarried; Adeline Elizabeth, who died when young; William

S., who died when four years of age; Charles Robert and another child, who died in infancy; William R., an enterprising farmer of this township, who married Bertha Blanche Boslough, and has two children,—Greta Marie and Theora Tryllis; and Mary E., who is the wife of R. N. Crawford, the president of the Mendota National bank, and their children are Louise and Robert N., Jr. Mr. and Mrs. William Truman became members of the Methodist church early in life. Mr. Truman lived a life of perseverance, energy and earnest purpose, succeeded in business life, secured for himself an excellent reputation as a citizen, and passed away in death leaving to his family and friends a full assurance of his abiding faith in the Christian religion. His death occurred July 11, 1899.

JOHN WALTER.

An enterprising, straightforward business man of Ottawa is he of whom this sketch is penned. He comes of sturdy, industrious German ancestry, and possesses the sterling traits of character for which the sons of the Fatherland are celebrated. Kindness and generosity and a sincere desire to be of service to his fellow men makes him win friends wherever he goes.

John Walter, Sr., was born in Germany, and about half a century ago, when he was a young man, he left the scenes and friends of his childhood to found a new home in the United States. Coming to Ottawa, he subsequently married here Miss Julia Leix, and seven children blessed their union. Four of the number are deceased; Julia is a resident of Ottawa, and Joseph is a resident of Chicago.

John Walter, our subject, was born in this town over two-score years ago, the date being September 15, 1858. His entire life has been spent in this place, here he was educated in the public schools, and here he embarked in his successful business career. He served a thorough apprenticeship at the hardware business, learning the trade of manufacturing sheet-iron implements, and follows both branches of enterprise. He is the owner of a large and well stocked hardware store, situated at No. 312 Main street.

In 1885 Mr. Walter married Miss Louisa Schomas, the daughter of Charles Schomas, deceased. The sons and daughters who grace the union of our subject and wife are named respectively Joseph, Carl, Julia, Louisa, and Helen.

In political affairs, Mr. Walter is an ally of the Democratic party. In the local fraternities he is associated with the Uniformed Rank of the

Knights of Pythias, the German Benevolent Society and the Pleasant Evening Club. He contributes liberally to various charitable organizations and favors local improvements and everything tending to promote the beauty and desirability of Ottawa as a place of residence or investment.

MILO J. LUTHER.

Streator has no more thoroughly representative citizen than Milo J. Luther, whose ardent interest in the growth and progress of the town has continued unabated during the long period of his residence here. By his means and influence he has fostered many of the leading industries and enterprises of this vicinity, and to his wise counsel and excellent judgment are due numerous advantages and improvements which our citizens enjoy.

In common with the majority of his countrymen who have risen to positions of honor and high standing, Milo J. Luther was born and reared upon a farm; his forefathers were of the agricultural class. The founder of the Luther family in America came to these hospitable shores from England, and the great-grandfather, Ezra Luther, born in 1751, was so in sympathy with the Colonies that he took up arms in their defense during the war of independence. He was a native of Providence, Rhode Island, and died in 1847. His son Nathaniel, the next in line of descent, was born in Rhode Island, in 1784. In early manhood he removed to New York. In the war of 1812 he enlisted and served his country as a captain of militia. He died in Scio, Allegany county, New York, November 12, 1862. Benjamin, the son of Nathaniel, was born March 9, 1806, and departed this life in the town of Scio, New York, September 3, 1859. For a companion and helpmate along life's journey he chose Electa, daughter of Peter L. Stout, like himself a native of the Empire state. Her father, who was a man of much influence and decision of character, was born in New Jersey, and upon arriving at man's estate he married a Miss Waite Luther. He fought for his country in the war of 1812, and reared his children to be loyal, patriotic citizens.

The birth of Milo J. Luther, son of Benjamin, took place on the parental homestead in Scio, Allegany county, New York, October 15, 1835. His boyhood days passed happily and uneventfully in the usual pursuits of country lads, and it was not until he was twenty-four years of age that he left home. Going to Pennsylvania, he soon found employment with contractors, then constructing a portion of the Oil Creek Railroad. He continued with them and in the service of the railroad company for seven years, giving entire satisfaction in the performance of the duties assigned to him.

M. J. Luther

In 1867 he came to LaSalle county and was placed in charge of the construction of the first line of railroad built out of Streator. At that time the mining industry had not reached its present importance in this region, but the possibilities in this direction soon appealed strongly to the mind of Mr. Luther, and he became a leading spirit in the firm known as the Luther & Tyler Coal and Coke Company. Gradually his interests and investments widened and he became an extensive operator in coal and iron mines, and in gold and silver mines as well. He was one of the fortunate few who reaped a splendid financial harvest during the great advance in Brotherton and other mining stocks some years ago, and at present he owns shares in prominent and promising mines in different parts of the west. Probably in no one matter has he contributed more to the industrial prosperity of Streator and vicinity than by his system of coal-washing, by which process great quantities of coal, hitherto considered valueless, have been freed from dust and other impurities and rendered fit for use.

The genuine interest which Mr. Luther maintains toward everything in the line of progress and education has been manifested in ways too numerous to mention. Fraternally he is associated with Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.

His cultured, accomplished wife ever warmly seconds his efforts, and for three decades has shared his joys and sorrows. It was in Streator, January, 1869, that Mr. Luther wedded Melissa E. Wilson, daughter of James Wilson, of Pennsylvania. James Wilson was of Scotch-Irish descent, born in New York in 1811. He married Hannah Baumgardner, of Millsboro, Washington county, Pennsylvania, who died in 1852. Mr. Wilson died in California in 1855. Mrs. Luther was born in Millsboro, Pennsylvania, January 14, 1848, and was their only child. Possessing the same broad, progressive views of her husband, she endorses all movements calculated to benefit the locality in which her lot is cast, and besides taking a distinctive part in literary affairs here she has served with great credit as the president of the Women's Council, a city federation of women's clubs, and was for twenty years a member of the Ladies' Library Board. She is at present one of the trustees of the City Public Library.

DELOS ROBINSON.

No man has been more prominently connected with the public interests of Sheridan than this gentleman, who for many years was postmaster and the leading merchant of the town. His fidelity in the former position, and his reliability and enterprise in the latter, won him the confidence and respect

of the entire community, and he well deserves mention among the representative citizens of LaSalle county.

Mr. Robinson was born on a farm in Tompkins county, New York, July 8, 1834, his parents being Eli and Charlotte (Young) Robinson. The father was a native of Putnam county, New York, and a son of Chapel Robinson, who also was born in the same county and was a soldier in the war of 1812. His father was one of the heroes of the Revolution, and it is believed was a native of New York, of Scotch origin. The family traditions say that the original American ancestors came to this country with the Puritans in the early settlement of New England. The mother of our subject was also a native of the Empire state, and was a daughter of John Young, an older brother of Brigham Young. Delos and Mrs. Celesta Rowe, of Chicago, were the only children born unto Eli and Charlotte Robinson. The parents removed to Kirtland, Ohio, in 1835, and in that place the daughter was born and the mother died, her death occurring in 1840, when about twenty-eight years of age. The father afterward married Sallie Ann Sprague, and about 1842 returned with his family to New York, but in 1854 again came to the west, locating in Mission township, LaSalle county, in the spring of 1855. Here the father died in 1888, at the age of seventy-six years, his remains being interred in the cemetery at Sheridan. He was a farmer by occupation, but lived a retired life in his later years, and from 1869 until his death made his home in Sheridan.

Delos Robinson accompanied his father on his various removals, coming with him to LaSalle county, and casting in his lot with the early settlers of this locality. His childhood days were spent on the farm, and his education was obtained in the common schools. When twenty-one years of age he started out in life for himself, and after his marriage in 1856 removed to Livingston county, where he purchased a tract of raw prairie land and developed an excellent farm of eighty acres. On the 22d of August, 1856, Miss Emeline Rowe became his wife. She was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, and by her marriage became the mother of three children, namely: Charlotte, who died at the age of two years; Ida Belle, wife of Robert Knapp, of Sheridan; and Eugene D., a merchant of Sheridan, who became his father's successor in business about six years ago. The mother of these children died in the spring of 1865, when Mr. Robinson was in the army.

On the 8th of August, 1862, prompted by a spirit of patriotism, our subject enlisted, joining the "boys in blue" of Company C, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Infantry. He was made sergeant of his company, and continued at the front until after the cessation of hostilities, when he was mustered out June 25, 1865, in Washington, D. C. He was in the western department under General W. T. Sherman and participated in the At-

lanta campaign, was with that general on the notable march to the sea, and then took part in the Carolina campaign to Raleigh. He was always found at his post of duty, and whether on the tented field, keeping guard in the silent watches of the night or in the thickest of the fight, he was always loyal to the starry banner on account of the cause it represented. He is now a valued member of Clayton Beardsley Post, No. 672, G. A. R., and for several years has been honored with the office of commander. He has for years taken an active interest in Freemasonry, being a Master Mason, and has served as secretary of his lodge for the last fifteen years.

Mr. Robinson resumed farming upon his return from the war, and was again married September 24, 1868, his second union being with Miss Eliza Howard, a native of Yates county, New York. They now have a daughter, Bertha N., and have lost two children, who died in infancy. The year following his marriage, 1869, he came to Sheridan and embarked in general merchandising. He followed that business for twenty years, conducting an excellent store, well equipped with everything found in a first-class establishment of the time. He received a liberal patronage, which was accorded him by reason of his diligence and his straightforward dealing, and as the result of his good business he accumulated a handsome competency, which enabled him to retire from business life about six years ago, when he sold out to his son. With the progress and upbuilding of the village of Sheridan he has always been prominently identified, and has contributed largely to its advancement and prosperity. He built the first hotel in the town, and still owns the building, which is known as the Sheridan Hotel. He was also the first postmaster, and served in that office altogether for nineteen years, his continuous occupancy being interrupted during President Cleveland's first administration. His long term plainly indicates his fidelity to duty, his administration being satisfactory to the public and the government.

In politics Mr. Robinson has always supported the party which stood by the Union in the dark days of war, and which has ever upheld American institutions and protected American interests. For more than ten years he has been a member of the Republican central committee of LaSalle county. What he has done for his town and county in political and business lines well entitles him to mention among the representative citizens. He has won the friendship of many, the respect of all with whom he has come in contact, and his example is well worthy of emulation.

Eugene D. Robinson, a son of Delos Robinson, was born near Pontiac, Livingston county, Illinois, October 7, 1862, and obtained his education in the common schools, acquiring a knowledge of the English branches that fit one for the practical duties of life. He assisted his father in the store in his youth, and in 1891 became his successor, since which time he has engaged

in merchandising on his own account. He is a man of marked enterprise and energy, and his well directed efforts are bringing to him a merited prosperity.

In 1887 Mr. Robinson was united in marriage to Miss Ola Hoffman, who died in 1897, leaving a son, Clair E. In 1899 he wedded Mrs. Addie Breuer, and in this community both are held in high regard. In his political affiliations Mr. Robinson is a stanch Republican, and socially he is a Master Mason. He ranks among the reliable business men and popular merchants of Sheridan.

MATHIAS GOCHANOUR.

Among the men who have contributed largely to the prosperity and development of LaSalle county, Illinois, none is more widely known or stands higher in the esteem of his fellow citizens than Mathias Gochanour, of Otter Creek township. He was born April 20, 1845, in Licking county, Ohio, and is the son of Jonathan C. and Lucinda (Ritter) Gochanour. The father is descended from Revolutionary stock and was born in the state of Virginia, which was also the birthplace of the mother. Nine children were born to them, namely: William H., of Otter Creek township; Mathias; Angus, of Cass county; James, of Otter Creek township; John; Edward, also of this township; Amanda Larry, a resident of Iowa; Jane Marsh, also of that state; and Ann Johnson, of Otter Creek township. The mother was taken to her heavenly home in 1895, when in her sixty-third year. She is survived by her venerable husband, who is an honored resident of this county and is past eighty years of age. He has been an industrious, hard-working man and was engaged in the carpenter trade for many years.

Our subject was little more than two years of age when his parents moved to this county, and it was here he received his education in the common schools, and here he grew to a noble manhood. About twenty-four years ago he purchased eighty acres of land, to which he has since added until he now has a farm of two hundred and fifty acres. He is a capable farmer and his place shows that thrift and care are part of his system of work. He has improved his land with good barns and neat, roomy residence, and he has one of the most attractive homes in the neighborhood.

September 16, 1866, Mathias Gochanour and Miss Anna E. McKernan were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. A family of seven children have been born to them, namely: Ralph A., at home; Clara A., wife of Henry Rumph, of Otter Creek township; Hugh J.; Pearl; Lloyd W.; Paul, who died at the tender age of three years; and an infant daughter, who was also transplanted to the heavenly garden. Mr. Gochanour is a Repub-

lican in his political views and has served as township collector. He has been a member of the school board for a great many terms, and is a strong friend to education. He possesses a wide scope of knowledge and keeps thoroughly conversant with all current topics of the day. Mrs. Gochanour was born in LaSalle county, Illinois, and is a woman of worth. She is a daughter of Captain James J. McKernan, deceased, an officer of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteers, and the maiden name of her mother was Mary Cramer. The children born to Captain James J. and Mary (Cramer) McKernan are as follows: Ralph; Rosanna Kleiber, of this township; Candice Ackerman; Anna Gochanour, wife of our subject; George; Samuel; Charles; and Augusta.

JOHN DOLDER.

France has contributed a host of sterling citizens to Illinois, and none more worthy and patriotic than the family represented by the subject of this biography. For fifty-five years the Dolders have been numbered among the residents of LaSalle county, actively interested in its progress, and materially aiding in the development of its resources. Their lives have been models of good citizenship, and in the multiplicity of their own private and business affairs they have still found time to faithfully discharge their public duties.

The father of the subject of this memoir, John Dolder, Sr., was born in the province of Alsace-Lorraine, in 1816, and married there Martha Dolder, a native of the same locality. After the birth of their first child, the worthy couple decided to cast in their fortunes with the people of the United States, and in 1844 crossed the Atlantic. Coming direct to LaSalle county they located upon a farm in Northville township, whence they later removed to Serena township. For about half a century the father was actively and successfully engaged in agriculture, and bore an enviable reputation for uprightness and integrity of word and deed. His long and useful career came to a peaceful close in 1895, when he was in his eightieth year. His faithful helpmate passed to the better land when she was in her eighty-fifth year. They were the parents of seven children, all but one born in the United States. Two of the number died in infancy, and William, the eldest, and Frederick, the third child, are deceased. Magdalene is the wife of George Lentz, and Elizabeth married Aaron Knight.

John Dolder, Jr., was born on the old farm in Serena township, LaSalle county, May 1, 1856, and in his boyhood received a liberal education in the common schools. He remained with his parents, giving his time to his

father until he reached his majority, when he was given charge of the farm, as he had already given proof of his competence to manage the place. He continued to cultivate the farm until 1890, when he came to Sheridan and succeeded J. W. Wedding in business, buying that gentleman's interest in the already established firm. At first Mr. Dolder dealt only in lumber and coal, but he soon added farm implements and carriages to his stock in trade, and has steadily prospered, his business growing rapidly from year to year. He is eminently deserving of success, for he is energetic and business-like, giving his full time and mind to meeting the desires of his customers, and treating every one with whom he has dealings in a uniformly kind, courteous, fair manner. His reputation for integrity and faithful execution of all of his contracts is something of which he has reason to be proud, and without exception his customers are his warm friends.

In 1881 Mr. Dolder married Alice Morel, a daughter of Charles and Marie (Bloom) Morel, natives of Alsace-Lorraine, France, and in 1866 came to the United States and became early settlers of LaSalle county. Mrs. Dolder was born in Belmont, Alsace-Lorraine, France, May 23, 1857, and came to the United States in 1866, with her parents, who settled in Serena township, this county. Two sons and four daughters have been born to our subject and wife, their names in order of birth being as follows: Emma Elizabeth, Henry George, Samuel Alfred, Ida May, Laura Ellen and Evaline Alice.

Since becoming a voter, Mr. Dolder has given his allegiance to the Republican party. He has capably officiated in several minor local positions, and is an ex-member of the Sheridan village board of trustees and a present member of the school board. He is deeply interested in the cause of education and all movements calculated to benefit and elevate the race, and he and his estimable wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is a trustee, and are esteemed in social circles of the town.

MILAM J. BARACKMAN.

Both as a patriot and as a business man, Milam James Barackman has an enviable record, and, if for no other reason than for what he suffered and endured that the Union might be preserved, he is entitled to a high place in the annals of his country and state.

Born in Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois, September 26, 1842, he is a son of James and Ellen (Moon) Barackman, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Their deaths occurred when Milam J. was about four years old, and he became a member of the household of his uncle,

Albert Moon. Daniel Barackman, the paternal grandfather of our subject, an early settler of Reading township, and a native of the Blue Grass state, died in 1864. Jacob Moon, the maternal grandfather, was born in Virginia, whence he removed to Ohio, and subsequently to Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois. Daniel, the only brother of Milam J., died at the age of nine years, and his two sisters are Mrs. Cary, of Normal, Illinois, and Mrs. Ellen Latham, of Saginaw, Michigan.

Until he was about eighteen years of age Milam J. Barackman lived with his uncle, Albert Moon, and attended the local schools of his native township. He then entered Lombard University, at Galesburg, Illinois, and was making good progress in his studies when the outbreak of the war routed all other interests from his mind. Upon the president's first call for volunteers, he enlisted in Company D, Twentieth Illinois Regiment of Infantry, and was filled with chagrin and disappointment when his guardian withheld his permission for him to be mustered into the service on the ground that he was not of age. After remaining at home for two weeks the young man re-enlisted, this time in Company C, Forty-fourth Illinois Infantry, for the term of three years, Colonel Noblesdorff being his commander. With his regiment he was ordered in pursuit of General Price, after which campaign he participated in the battles of Pea Ridge and Perryville, and fought under the leadership of General Rosecrans at the battle of Stone River, that officer then being in charge of the Army of the Cumberland. For his meritorious services in the great battle last mentioned Mr. Barackman's name was placed upon a special roll of honor of non-commissioned officers, to whose daring and fidelity General Rosecrans felt much indebted, and thus acknowledged publicly. Later, when in the Twentieth Army Corps, commanded by General McCook, our subject took an active part in the famous battles of Chickamauga and Mission Ridge. At Stone River, where the Union forces suffered so dreadfully, Mr. Barackman was injured, and lost his right eye, but it was not until 1864, when his regiment veteranized, that the matter came before the notice of the proper authorities, who refused to allow him to re-enter the lists with his comrades, as he desired to do. He was accordingly mustered out of the service and honorably discharged, at the Marine Hospital in Chicago.

Returning to his old home in Reading township, Mr. Barackman became interested in coal operations, to which he gave much of his attention for the succeeding thirty years, then turning the entire business over to his son, Arthur M. In the meantime he had also been successfully engaged in farming, and owns a finely improved homestead of four hundred acres, in his native township. One of the pioneer coal operators of Streator and vicinity, he accomplished a great deal for this great industry, and is well known

throughout this region. For some years he was the president of the Barackman Coal Company, and was the senior member of the firm of Barackman & Son, who for a period conducted a grocery in Streator. By his well directed energy and financial ability he accumulated a snug little fortune, and now owns a large amount of valuable property aside from his splendid farm, which he now rents to responsible tenants. Fraternally he belongs to Streator Post, No. 68, G. A. R., and in politics he favors the Republican party.

In 1866 Mr. Barackman and Miss Fanny W. Goodyear, of Parkville, Missouri, were united in marriage. Mrs. Barackman died in 1872, and left two children, Arthur M. and Eulola F., the latter now the wife of Albert Finchman, of Streator. In 1876 Miss Alice C. Tutlow, of Ottawa, Illinois, became the wife of our subject. Their children, in order of birth, are as follows: Harry E., Guy B., Jessie F., William G., and May. They are receiving good educational advantages, and are being well equipped for the battles of life.

ROBERT LINFOR.

An ex-soldier of the civil war and a well known and much respected citizen of Allen township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is found in the subject of this sketch, Robert Linfor, whose post-office address is Ransom.

Mr. Linfor dates his birth in Longsutton, Lincolnshire, England, October 1, 1846, and is a son of William and Dinah (Isaba) Linfor. He spent the first two years of his life in his native land and in 1849 came with his parents and other members of the family to America, their objective point being Ottawa, Illinois, where they settled and lived a short time and whence, in 1856, they subsequently moved upon section 20, Allen township, locating on a farm. Here the father lived until 1879, when he removed to Syracuse, New York, where he is now living, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The mother died February 28, 1879, at the age of seventy-three years. They were the parents of four children, namely: John, a resident of the same township in which his brother Robert lives, and, like him a veteran of the civil war; William, of Walnut, Iowa; Sarah Golder, who died in Kansas; and Robert, whose name introduces this review.

Robert Linfor was engaged in work on his father's farm at the time the civil war broke out. His love for his adopted country at once asserted itself by his enlistment in the Union army. As a member of Company C, First Illinois Light Artillery, under Captain M. H. Prescott and Colonel Charles Hathling, he went to the front, being with the forces that operated in the south. He was in the engagements at Kenesaw Mountain, Bentonville and

Atlanta; was on that famous "march to the sea," and took part in the grand review of the victorious armies at Washington, D. C. June 12, 1865, he was honorably discharged and returned home.

Mr. Linfor has made farming his life work. Since 1875 he has owned and occupied his present farm, a fine tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Allen township. His modern residence he erected in 1891; he has large barns and other farm buildings, and the general appearance of his farm is indicative of thrift and prosperity.

June 9, 1867, was consummated Mr. Linfor's marriage to Miss Cynthia Alice Isgrig, of Allen township, LaSalle county, Illinois. She was born in Ohio and is a daughter of Wilson and Mahala (Loveland) Isgrig, natives of New York and now residents of Glidden, Carroll county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Linfor have four children, namely: Carrie, wife of Grant West, of Chicago; Lottie, wife of A. Berge, of Allen township; John W., at home, was a member of the Third Illinois Infantry, Illinois National Guards, from 1893 to 1897; and Mabel, at home.

Mr. Linfor has always given his support to the Republican party and has taken an active interest in local affairs, serving officially in various capacities. For twelve years he has been a member of the school board and he has served as township collector two years. He is a member of several fraternal organizations, including the Knights of Pythias, Lodge 312, of Ransom, and the G. A. R. post at the same place.

JACOB DOLDER.

America would be much more desirable and better in every way if the foreign-born citizens who came to dwell beneath her flag were all as loyal and patriotic as is the subject of this notice. It would seem that a spirit of love and gratitude should fill the heart of every man who has sought protection, wealth and citizenship, and found what he desired in liberal measure, under the dear old Stars and Stripes; but too frequently, alas! is heard throughout the land, in the press and from the platform and in public and private gatherings, the voices of the malcontents, decrying the institutions, laws and customs of the very country which has nourished them and their children, and given them the luxuries, perhaps, which were reserved for the nobility of their own fatherlands. But in the case of Jacob Dolder, as will be seen, the utmost loyalty to the United States reigns in his heart.

He was born in the province of Alsace-Lorraine, France, November 1, 1827, the fifth in order of birth of the eight children of Leonard and Magdalene (Stoffer) Dolder, the others being named Charles, Leonard, Caroline,

Louis, Christian, Benjamin and Felix. The parents were likewise natives of Alsace-Lorraine and the father serve under the great Napoleon in the French army.

In his early manhood, Jacob Dolder learned the blacksmith's trade, which he pursued until he was well along in years. In 1844 he came to the United States, and came direct to LaSalle county, where he remained for a year. Then, going to Chicago, he spent four years in that place, then a small village, with little promise of the great future in store for it. In 1849 he returned and established a blacksmith's shop on the hill just east of the Ellerding water-power mill, and there for twenty-one years he played the role of "the village blacksmith," after which he was similarly employed at Sandwich, Illinois, for about a year. Feeling the need of a change, Mr. Dolder next settled upon a farm in Northville township, and for eight years devoted his entire attention to agriculture, with good success. Since 1873 he has made his home in the town of Sheridan, where, for seven years, he was engaged in the lumber business. Then selling out, he later embarked in the hardware business here, and for eight years commanded a large and lucrative trade. At the end of that period he disposed of his stock and retired from the commercial world for a brief time. We next find him conducting a meat market, and in this venture, as in all others, he met with success. After five years in this line of business he sold out and retired to enjoy the competence which he had acquired by a life-time of hard and industrious enterprise.

In 1849 Jacob Dolder married Miss Mary Louise Dolder, who has been a true helpmate, ably seconding her husband's efforts to make a home and competence. They were poor when they commenced the battle of life together, but they had brave hearts and were willing to exercise frugality and toil industriously toward the goal which they had in view, and success crowned their struggles. They have a beautiful home in Sheridan, and are surrounded by all of the essential elements of comfort and happiness. Each time that Mr. Dolder sold his business he and his wife took advantage of his temporary retirement from the commercial world to make a trip to their native land, for Mrs. Dolder, also, was born in Alsace, and came to the United States in 1844. He is very fond of hunting, and every time that he returned to the land of his birth he enjoyed the privilege of hunting in the wild mountain regions, through the courtesy of an old friend, a wealthy, influential man of Alsace. The same gentleman frequently urged Mr. Dolder to remain in that province, instead of returning to the United States, but, though his affection for the land in which his happy childhood days were spent is unchanged, he has strongly preferred to pass his declining years in this country,—the place which has witnessed his struggles and triumph over

adverse circumstances, the land where the prime of his life has been passed. Conspicuous in his pleasant home are some trophies of his skill in marksmanship,—a finely mounted head of a wild boar, two mounted antelope heads and the skin of a silver fox,—all killed in the forests of Alsace. Since his arrival in America Mr. Dolder has been a loyal supporter of the Republican party, casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and voting for every Republican candidate since then.

JOHN LINFOR.

This respected resident of Allen township, LaSalle county, is a native of Norfolkshire, England, born August 22, 1837, a son of William and Dinah (Isaba) Linfor, also natives of Albion's isle. He is one of six children, two of whom died in infancy. Sarah H., who became Mrs. Golder, died in Kansas, in 1873; and those living are John William, a resident of Walnut, Iowa; and Robert, of Allen township, LaSalle county, Illinois. In 1849 the family emigrated to America, landing at New York August 22, 1849, after being eight weeks on the Atlantic ocean. A few weeks after landing on the shores of this New World they came to Ottawa, Illinois, arriving on the 1st day of October; and here the father, William Linfor, was the sexton of the West cemetery of Ottawa, while John was bound out to Jerry Woods, of that city. In 1856 John and his mother came out upon the wild prairie and began the development of the homestead now occupied by him, the father and the other children remaining in Ottawa; but the next year they also came here. John continued to work upon the place, assisting his father, in the days when ox teams were employed in breaking the original prairie. The father is still living, but is now a resident of Syracuse, New York. He was born in 1811, and his wife was born in 1805, and died in 1879.

On the 2d day of August, 1861, Mr. John Linfor, our subject, tendered a member of Company E of the Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry Volunteers. his services to the government for the preservation of the Union, becoming This company was ordered to the front under Captain A. F. Jaques and Colonel John A. Loomis, and Mr. Linfor's army service covered a period of three years,—eighteen months in Company E. He was taken sick at the second battle of Corinth, and taken to the hospital at St. Louis, and remained there three months. Recovering, he enlisted again, this time in the Mississippi Marine Brigade, in Company A, cavalry, under Captain J. R. Crandall and Brigadier General Alfred W. Ellet. Finally he was honorably discharged, at Vicksburg, September 23, 1864.

Returning to his Illinois home, he assisted his father on the farm, and he

has ever since been engaged in agricultural pursuits, with that success that attends perseverance and a judicial management. He is a member of Post No. 247, G. A. R., and of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Linfor was married February 21, 1865, to Miss Martha E. Patten, a native of Putnam county, Illinois, born November 16, 1845, a daughter of David and Catherine (Umbarger) Patten, the former a native of Ohio, born in June, 1826, and the latter of Pennsylvania, born in September, 1827. Of the thirteen children of Mr. and Mrs. Patten six are still living, namely: Martha E., George A., Owen W., Dartha J. Bergman, Alfred E. and Sarah E. Bergman. David Patten was a member of Company E of the Twenty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, going to the front under Captain A. F. Jaques and Colonel John A. Loomis, in 1861. Mrs. Patten died in 1888, and Mr. Patten died in the year 1895, both being members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. and Mrs. Linfor have two children,—Flora E. and Ida L.,—both of whom are married and settled in life. Flora E., born July 14, 1867, is the wife of John Blair, of Allen township, and has one child, named Flossie E.; and Ida L., born May 26, 1870, is the wife of Otto Strobel, also of Allen township, and has two children,—Martha C. and William O.

WILLIAM H. CONARD.

William H. Conard, of Ransom, Illinois, is a prominent farmer and stock-raiser of Allen township, and this biography of the representative men of LaSalle county would fall far short of its object did it not contain a synopsis of his life.

He is a native of Licking county, Ohio, born November 9, 1843. The ancestors of William H. Conard were undoubtedly Germans, the correct name being Conrad; but neither the date of their settlement in America nor the manner in which the name became changed can be definitely ascertained. Certain it is, however, that for a number of generations prior to the Revolutionary war his ancestors resided in the colony of Virginia and were respected people in that aristocratic old state. The grandfather of our subject, Anthony Conard, was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Anthony was born at the foot of the Blue Ridge mountains in Loudoun county, Virginia, in the year 1760, and was but a mere boy when he enlisted in the patriot army. After the war he resided in Virginia, near the plantation of General Washington, with whom he was personally acquainted. The father of Anthony Conard was John Conard, a native of Virginia. His children were Anthony, John, Johnathan, Nathan, Joseph and Susan. In 1827 Anthony Conard emigrated to Ohio, lived one year in Belmont county, and then

W. H. Conard

located in Licking county, same state, near the village of Utica, where he died, in 1843.

Anthony Conard, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, October 16, 1799, and emigrated to Licking county, Ohio, in 1828, remaining there until 1847, when he emigrated to LaSalle county, Illinois, and died in Crawford county, this state, December 26, 1851.

He married Nancy Gregg, a native of Virginia, on the 18th day of January, 1821. She was born October 15, 1802, and died in LaSalle county, Illinois, on the 16th day of December, 1847. Their children were Mary E., Elinor, David W., Charles W., Amelia, George W., Nelson, John, Nancy, James W., Melvina M., Joseph W., William H. and Rebecca L.

William H. Conard removed with his parents from Licking county, Ohio, to LaSalle county, Illinois, when but three years old. Soon afterward he was left an orphan and he was cared for by his friends until he was nine years old, when his sister Nancy was married to P. W. Jacobs, of Serena township, and was adopted by them until fourteen years of age. He helped them on the farm in summer and attended district school in winter. At the age of fourteen years Mr. Conard started out in life for himself, inheriting nothing but health, an honest heart and willing hands to work. He began working as a farm hand at ten dollars per month and by most frugal habits and economy he saved sufficient from his small earnings in four years of patient labor to begin farming for himself on shares; but just at that time his country was in danger, rebels in the south had seceded and were trampling the "old flag" in the dust. President Lincoln had called for three hundred thousand more men and Mr. Conard could no longer quench the flame of patriotism within his breast. He sold the little property he had, left the grain in the field to be gathered by others and went to battle for his country. His record in the army is one of honor, and it is with pleasure that we here insert his army record, taken from the "History of the One Hundred and Fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteers," of which he was a member:

"Sergeant William H. Conard, aged eighteen, a farmer, enlisted from Serena August 14, 1862; was in the Kentucky campaign and the battle of Hartsville in the Tullahoma and Chickamauga campaigns; was present at Elk River and Davis Cross Roads and the battle of Chickamauga, in the battles of Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge and the skirmishes following; was promoted corporal for meritorious services May 1, 1864; was in the Atlanta campaign at Buzzards' Roost, the battles around Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain and Peach Tree Creek. In the last named battle he was severely wounded in the right shoulder and was sent to the hospital, thence home. On recovering he rejoined the regiment at Goldsboro, North Carolina, and participated in the last campaign. Promoted to

sergeant April 7, 1865, for meritorious services. Mustered out June 6, 1865.

"A soldier who could be counted upon in a tight place, on his return home he was tendered a commission as a lieutenant in the regular army by Hon. B. C. Cook, then a member of congress from the Ottawa district, but declined."

Mr. Conard was married, the 20th of February, 1866, to Sarah Belinda Dominy, a daughter of Lorenzo and Sarah A. (Gurnea) Dominy, both of whom were natives of New York. Her parents were among the early settlers of LaSalle county, and here Mrs. Conard was born and reared. She was born March 13, 1845. To Mr. and Mrs. Conard have been born five children, all of whom are living: John M., born January 24, 1867; William L., September 25, 1868; Belinda R., December 15, 1870; David E., November 2, 1873; and Reno J., August 12, 1876. John M. Conard was married to Esther A. Shinn, of Ottawa, Kansas, January 21, 1891, and they have one child, Alberta B., born March 2, 1899. Mr. Conard is a farmer and stock-raiser on his ranch in Franklin county, Kansas. William L. Conard was married to Elizabeth A. Martin, of Detroit, Michigan, January 31, 1894, and they have two children: Wilma A., born November 27, 1894; and Harvey M., December 23, 1896. Their home is in Toledo, Ohio. William L. is a professor in the Toledo College. Belinda R. Conard was married to Frank X. Strobel, of Allen township, on January 28, 1891. They live near the old home and are farmers. David E. Conard was married to Nettie Clark, of Dwight, Illinois, February 15, 1899, and is a farmer near the old home. Reno J. lives at the old home, single, and farms his own and a part of his father's farm.

Lorenzo Dominy was born in Clinton county, New York, June 22, 1822, a son of Ezra and Rhoda (Smith) Dominy. He removed with his parents to LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1835, and shared the hardships incident to a new country. He was much respected. He served his town in the capacities of supervisor and justice of the peace, and finally died at his home in Serena township, April 18, 1887. Ezra Dominy was born on Long Island, New York, May 13, 1786, and died January 13, 1879, in LaSalle county, Illinois. Ezra was a son of Henry Dominy, also a native of Long Island, born December 26, 1746, and a grandson of Nathaniel Dominy, one of three brothers who came to America from England and settled on Long Island. Henry Dominy was in the employ of the government and was on Long Island when it was captured by the British. The grandfather of Rhoda (Smith) Dominy was a native of England and also settled on Long Island. Sarah A. (Gurnea) Dominy was born April 21, 1826, in Montgomery county, New York, and now resides in Los Angeles, California. Her father, William F. Gurnea, was

born September 15, 1796, in Montgomery county, New York, and died in LaSalle county, Illinois.

Isabella (Peck) Gurnea, wife of William F. Gurnea, was born April 6, 1807, in Montgomery county, New York, and died in LaSalle county.

In the year 1866 William H. Conard bought eighty acres of land on section 35 in Allen township and moved to it in 1867, and here he still resides. He has occupied his time in farming and stock-raising and he has added to the orginal eighty acres until now, after giving to each of his children a good farm or its equivalent, he still has nine hundred and sixty acres of good land in his possession.

Mr. Conard has served his town in the capacity of school trustee, road commissioner, school treasurer and supervisor. He is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic and belongs to the Methodist church. In politics Mr. Conard is thoroughly independent. He votes for men and measures and not for party. The party lash in the hands of party "bosses" finds no victim of obedience in his political action. He votes his convictions without obligations to partisans and believes the purity of the ballot-box can be secured from fraud and corruption only by every one so doing.

HERMAN BRUNNER.

Herman Brunner, who was for some years president of the Peru Beer Company and a well known citizen of Peru, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, on the 5th of March, 1838, his parents being August and Johanna (Roth) Brunner. His father was the superintendent of iron works in Hirzenheim. Herman was the eldest of three children and acquired his education in Germany. In October, 1866, he came to America, coming direct to Peru, Illinois, where he accepted a clerkship in a store. After a short time, however, he resigned that position and became a clerk for the Peru Beer Company, with which he was connected up to the time of his death. In 1872, in connection with Andrew Hebel, he purchased the business and conducted the plant under the name of Hebel & Brunner. That partnership was maintained until Mr. Hebel died and was succeeded by his son, Andrew, in 1886. Three years later the company was incorporated and has since been known as the Peru Company. Herman Brunner at that time became its president, Andrew Hebel its secretary and treasurer, and Charles Herbold its superintendent. They built up a good business and shipped their goods to various markets.

In 1870 Mr. Brunner was married to Miss Rosa Reinhart, whose father,

Professor Joseph Reinhart, is well remembered here as a music teacher of more than ordinary ability and skill. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Brunner, namely: Flora, Rose, Sidonia and Camilla. Mr. Brunner died in December, 1899, but the family yet reside in Peru.

WILLIAM F. CORBUS.

William F. Corbus, of LaSalle, than whom few, if any, have been longer engaged in the drug business in LaSalle county, is a native of the Buckeye state, his birth having occurred in Millersburg, Holmes county, April 28, 1840.

He obtained a good common-school education, and from the time he was thirteen until he was twenty years of age he worked at the printer's trade in his native town, being employed in the office of the Holmes County Republican. In 1860 he came to this state and dwelt in Lee county until September 15, 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, Seventy-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a hospital steward, in which capacity he continued to serve until he was granted an honorable discharge, July 3, 1865. During all this time he was with the Army of the Cumberland from its organization until his company was disbanded, and took an active part in every skirmish and engagement in which it was concerned.

After his return from the battle-fields of the south, Mr. Corbus obtained a position as a clerk in a drug-store in Mendota, and subsequently embarked in the same line of business in that place as a member of the firm of W. F. Corbus & Company. In 1876 he came to LaSalle, where he opened a drug-store.

In 1870 the marriage of Mr. Corbus and Miss Clara M. Robison was solemnized in Mendota. They have one son. Politically our subject is a Republican, and fraternally he is a Master Mason and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

HON. HAMILTON MURRAY GALLAGHER.

Without doubt one of the most public-spirited and representative citizens that Peru ever had was the gentleman whose name forms the heading of this brief tribute to his worth and ability. Everything connected with the city's progress and advancement, in whatsoever lines of industrial enterprise or improvement, its municipal government, its educational system, and in

short in all things which affected the permanent welfare of the place, received his earnest attention and elicited his zealous interest.

Bernard Gallagher, the paternal grandfather of our subject, lived in Virginia during the progress of the war of the Revolution and rendered effective service to the colonial army under Washington by carrying provisions and supplies to the troops. On one of these expeditions he was captured by a band of the enemy but was soon exchanged. He died in Alexandria, Virginia, and left five or six children to perpetuate his name. One of the number, Charles Henry, was the father of Hon. H. M. Gallagher. He was born in the Old Dominion, but possessed the spirit of enterprise which led so many of the sons of that state to explore the west and to develop its wonderful resources. After spending a few years in New York city, engaged in the dry-goods business, he went to Moniteau county, Missouri, some years prior to the outbreak of the civil war. In the vicinity of Boonville, he owned and carried on a large plantation, and there he continued to dwell until he was summoned to the silent land, at the age of eighty-two years. His wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Cole, survived him about one year, and was over sixty-five years of age at the time of her death. She was a native of Virginia, but her father and ancestors were Pennsylvanians and of the old Dutch stock which did so much for that great state. Seven of the nine children of C. H. and Sophia Gallagher are yet living, namely: Sarah, wife of George Reynolds, of Missouri; Kate and Mary, unmarried, and residents of Tipton, Missouri; Milton and Peyton, of Missouri; Newton, of Peru, Illinois; and Jesse, of Waco, Texas.

The boyhood of our subject was spent in the vicinity of his birthplace, near Tipton, Missouri, his nativity being on the 26th of April, 1841. He was a studious lad, and though his advantages for obtaining an education were not of the best in that western state, he made the best of his opportunities, and attended the private school in Boonville which had at its head Professor Kemper, a man of considerable ability. Before attaining his majority Mr. Gallagher took up the study of law, and after being admitted to the bar engaged in practice in St. Louis for a few years. In 1865 he went to Ottawa, Illinois, where he was occupied in his professional labors for about a year, after which he came to Peru, thenceforth to be his home. Here he was the city attorney for a number of years, and conducted an excellent and representative practice as long as he lived. During some six or eight years he was the editor of the Peru Herald, manifesting his unusual talents as forcibly in this new field of effort as in any which he had hitherto undertaken.

The Democratic party of this section of the state, in whose councils Mr. Gallagher ranked high, found in him an able supporter and friend. He attended numerous conventions in the capacity of delegate, and acted

upon many important committees. Elected to the office of mayor of Peru, he served to the entire satisfaction of all of our citizens during a number of terms, and at the time of his demise he was a supervisor and a member of the board of education. In 1870 and 1871 he represented this district in the Illinois legislature, winning fresh laurels for himself and party. Socially he was a Master Mason, and also belonged to the Odd Fellows order.

In 1867 Mr. Gallagher married Miss Martha A. Brewster, who departed this life about four years subsequently. Their only child, Charles D., was one of the gallant Seventy-first Regiment of New York Volunteers in the late Spanish-American war. The second marriage of Mr. Gallagher took place November 18, 1874, Miss E. Lena Kellenbach becoming his bride. They became the parents of three children, namely: Kate Murray, Harry Milton and William Hamilton. The parents of Mrs. Gallagher, Anton and Margaret (Birkenbeuel) Kellenbach, esteemed citizens of Peru, are natives of Prussia, Germany. They came to this country in 1856, and, locating in this place, the father was actively engaged in working at his trade, as a brick and stone mason, and as a contractor on the Rock Island Railroad, for many years. His father died in Germany, and his wife's father, William Birkenbeuel, died on ship-board, on his way to America. He was then over three-score and ten years of age.

The extremely active and successful life of H. M. Gallagher came to a close while he was in the prime of manhood, his vigor of mind and body unimpaired. The summons came April 13, 1888, and he was laid to rest near the city which he dearly loved and with whose fortunes his own had been so closely interwoven. His record as a business man and citizen, as a friend and in the home circle, was above reproach, and his children have just cause to be proud of his honorable name and fame.

THOMAS F. DOYLE.

The legal profession has ever had great attractions for a large class of American young men; for, added to the desire to assist in the righting of wrongs and injustice, which is a most natural and commendable feeling, there are greater opportunities for genius to assert itself within this realm than perhaps in any other; and from its ranks our most illustrious statesmen have been culled. He who grapples with the intricacies of the law receives a peculiar training, acquires a keenness and acumen which qualifies him for any position, howsoever responsible and important; and thus it is not strange that bright, ambitious minds are the rule and not the exception among those who have practiced law.

Thomas F. Doyle, one of the young members of the bar of LaSalle county, is a native of Dimmick township, this county, his birth having occurred July 8, 1873. He is a son of Luke and Ann (Hanley) Doyle, who reside on a farm in the locality mentioned, and are worthy and respected citizens of the community. The boyhood of our subject passed uneventfully, his time being chiefly devoted to the obtaining of an elementary education in the common schools of the neighborhood of his home. Later he went to New York and completed his literary and scientific training at Niagara University. He then entered the law department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and was graduated in that celebrated institution of learning with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, in June, 1895. In the preceding April he passed the required examination admitting him to practice in the Michigan courts, and subsequently he was admitted to the Illinois bar.

In September, 1895, Mr. Doyle accepted the position of assistant state's attorney under V. J. Duncan, of Ottawa, then occupying the superior office, and in this capacity he continued to act for one year, or until the expiration of Mr. Duncan's term. Then coming to LaSalle, Mr. Doyle opened an office and started upon the regular practice of law and continued alone in business until January 15, 1897, when he entered into partnership with his former friend and legal associate, Mr. Duncan. This business connection is still in existence, and the firm enjoys a large and representative practice in this section of the county. They are both deservedly popular with the citizens of LaSalle and Ottawa, and take an active part in local affairs. Mr. Doyle uses his right of franchise in favor of the platform and nominees of the Democratic party.

HARRY E. ROCKWOOD.

Owning and occupying one of the nice country homes in Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, is found the gentleman whose name forms the heading of this sketch,—Harry Earl Rockwood,—a representative of one of the well known families of the county.

He was born on his father's farm in Farm Ridge township, April 27, 1861, a son of William H. Rockwood, deceased. The Rockwoods are of English origin and the family was represented in America at an early day, New England being their first place of settlement. (The genealogy is given more fully further on.) William H. Rockwood was born at Chesterfield, New Hampshire, November 2, 1826. In 1835 John Rockwood and family came to Illinois and settled in South Ottawa township, LaSalle county, and on his farm he and his wife passed the rest of their lives. He was a school-

teacher as well as farmer, and his religious creed was that of the Presbyterian church.

At the time his father moved to Illinois William H. was a boy of eight years. He attended the district schools here and later was a student at Granville, Illinois, and on his return from school he engaged in farming, which he followed through life. He died on his farm in Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, June 2, 1881, at the age of fifty-five years. He was married, February 13, 1855, to Maria I. Dolittle, a native of St. Mary's, Georgia, and a daughter of Alfred and Adaline (Garvin) Dolittle, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of Florida. Alfred Dolittle was a merchant. He came to South Ottawa, Illinois, in 1851 and engaged in business and here he died at the age of sixty years. Mrs. Dolittle died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rockwood, at the age of sixty-one years. Mr. Dolittle was the father of eleven children, five by a former marriage and six by the mother of Mrs. Rockwood. Mrs. Rockwood was educated in Vermont and Massachusetts, and was before her marriage a popular and successful teacher. To William H. Rockwood and wife were given seven children, of whom only three are living, the others having died in early life. These three are Harry E., the immediate subject of this sketch, who occupies the old Rockwood homestead; Everette C., of Indianapolis, Indiana, engaged in the stock business; and William H., Jr., a teacher, of Grand Ridge, Illinois. The father was a man of local prominence. He filled several township offices, at different times, such as assessor and collector and member of the school board. He was an active church worker, identified with the Presbyterian church and for years one of its trustees. Mrs. Rockwood, his widow, has a pleasant home in the village of Grand Ridge, where she has resided since 1893, having moved here from the farm now occupied by her son Harry E.

The Rockwood farm is one of the best improved and most desirable in LaSalle county. The residence is located on a natural building site; the barn is spacious, and everything is conveniently arranged,—in short, a model farm. While he carries on general farming, Mr. Rockwood makes a specialty of the stock business, raising and marketing cattle.

Harry E. Rockwood was married, in 1893, to Miss Nelly Margaret Shepherd, of Deer Park, this county, where she was engaged in teaching previous to her marriage. Their union has been blessed in the birth of three children: Frank Shepherd, Robert Earl and Mildred, aged five, four and two years respectively.

Mr. Rockwood is one of the progressive, up-to-date farmers of the county, interested in everything intended to promote the general welfare of his locality. He is a Republican and has filled some of the township

offices. Fraternally he is identified with Occidental Lodge, No. 40; Shabbona Chapter; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, of Ottawa.

In the genealogy of Mr. Rockwood, of the foregoing sketch, we add that the first six generations of his American ancestry are taken from the Genealogical Register of the descendants of the early planters of Sherborn, Holliston and Medway, Massachusetts, compiled by Rev. Abner Morse, A. M., of Sherborn, a member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, and published in 1855.

The names Rockwood and Rocket were formerly identical, and the latter is a corruption of the former. The name Rockwood was, no doubt, local, derived from Rocky Woods in England, and once common in west England. It was probably the abode of the first person who assumed it. Nothing of their history prior to their arrival in New England had been ascertained so far as known to the compiler of the genealogy referred to; but the Rev. Abner Morse thought that in the further pursuit of their genealogy they must explore the history of their Puritan sire among the Rockwoods of England, in Dorset and Suffolk counties.

Tradition says that a page by the name of Rockwood at the court of Henry VIII, in a game of chess with his king, won a manor belonging to one of the monasteries distributed in his reign. In commemoration of the victory he received from his king six chess rooks for his arms. The above estate is still occupied by Rockwoods who are of the gentry. Richard Rockwood was a planter, of Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1636, having come to this country in 1627 or before. His first wife was Agnes, a daughter of Zachary Bicknell, of Weymouth, Dorsetshire, England. She died in 1643, at Braintree, Massachusetts, and he married a second wife, named Ann. His children were, by his first wife, Nicholas, born in 1628, and by his second wife, John, born in 1647. The latter married Johanna Ford, of Braintree, in 1662; Lydia, who married Edward Adams, a son of Henry Adams, of Braintree, now Quincy.

Nicholas Rockwood first located at Braintree, and in 1650 he and the sons of Henry Adams settled the town of Medfield. He married, first, Jane Adams, a daughter of Henry Adams, who died December 15, 1654; and, secondly, Margaret Holbrook, a daughter of John Holbrook, of Weymouth, in 1656. She died April 23, 1670; and his third wife's name was Silence. His children were: Samuel, who was born at Braintree and married Hannah Ellis; Benjamin; Josiah, who married Mary Twitchell; Elizabeth, who became the wife of John Partridge; Rev. John Rockwood was the next in order of birth; and the youngest was Nathaniel Dea, who was born February 23, 1665, and died September 24, 1721, at Wrenth.

Nathaniel Rockwood Dea (Deacon?) married Johanna Ellis, a daughter

of Thomas Ellis, of Medfield, and his children were: Margaret, who married Ebner Metcalf; Nathaniel, who married Margaret Phipps; Benjamin, who married Mehetibel Thomson; Abigail; Ebenezer; Hannah, who became the wife of Thomas Lawrence; Mary; and Elisha, who was born June 11, 1716, and died December 5, 1788.

Elisha Rockwood settled in Groton. August 18, 1738, he married Elizabeth Adams, who was born September 4, 1719, and died May 16, 1799. She was the daughter of James Adams, of Sherborn, by his wife Abigail nee Hill, and granddaughter of Moses Adams, by his wife Lydia nee Whitney, and great-granddaughter of Henry Adams, of Medfield, by wife Lydia Paine, and great-great-granddaughter of Henry Adams, of Braintree; and she was distantly related to Robert Treat Paine, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. His children were: Elisha, who was born November 9, 1740, and died in February, 1831; Joseph, Ebenezer, A. M., M. D., Abagail, Elizabeth, Lydia, Sarah and Sybil.

Elisha Rockwood, of the above family, married Mary Farnsworth in 1762, and she died in 1765, and he married, secondly, Abigail Stone, in 1771. He removed from Groton, Massachusetts, to Chesterfield, New Hampshire. His children were: Elisha, D. D., who married Susanna Parkman; William, who married Anna Horton; John, who married Sally Green, of Westmoreland; Otis, D. D., married Maria Johnson.

John Rockwood, of the above family, was born July 7, 1782, and died June 29, 1859. He was married June 26, 1817, to Sally Green, of Westmoreland, who was born August 1, 1791, and died January 8, 1882. She was a daughter of Captain Levi Green, of Westmoreland, New Hampshire. They resided on the paternal Rockwood farm in Chesterfield, New Hampshire, until 1835, when he removed to Ottawa, Illinois, settling on a farm in South Ottawa township, where he resided till his death. His children were: Mary Abigail, who married Rev. James Dunn; Laura Maria; Loring Otis; John Adams, who married Sarah Lewis; William Henry, and Elisha Earl, who married Debora Cox.

ELIJAH B. LOVEJOY.

Elijah B. Lovejoy, a veteran of the civil war, and an honored citizen of Ottawa, is now passing his declining days in the enjoyment of the fruits of many years of diligent toil. In all of the varied relations of life he has endeavored to perform his entire duty, and well does he deserve the praise and admiration which are accorded him by all who are acquainted with him or his history.

Jacob Lovejoy, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Connecticut, and was a descendant of one of the five families that first located permanently in that state. They originated in England, and eventually went to New Hampshire from Connecticut, and later settled in Hebron, that state. Jacob Lovejoy served as a drummer boy in the war of the Revolution, and his son Phineas (father of Elijah B.) was a "minute" man, and, enlisting in the war of 1812, was commissioned to the rank of lieutenant in that struggle with England. The wife of Jacob and mother of Phineas Lovejoy was a Miss Baxter in her girlhood. The birth of Phineas Lovejoy took place in Hebron, Grafton county, New Hampshire, in 1771, and in January, 1866, he was summoned to the silent land. He married Annice Blood, a daughter of James Blood. She was a native of Fairlee, Vermont, born in June, 1783, and her death occurred in the town of Landaff, New Hampshire, when she was in her eighty-second year.

Elijah B. Lovejoy was born in Hebron, New Hampshire, November 27, 1816, and in his youth learned agriculture thoroughly, in its various phases. He remained on the old homestead until he reached his majority, and always continued the labors of farming as long as he led an active life. He owned in connection with his farm a saw and shingle mill. In 1872 he decided to try his fortunes in LaSalle county, Illinois, and he accordingly purchased one hundred acres of land in the northern part of Ottawa township, there giving his attention to the raising of crops commonly grown in this region, and raising cattle and hogs to some extent. In 1882 he retired from the active work which he had faithfully followed for so many decades, and has resided quietly in Ottawa ever since.

In August, 1862, Mr. Lovejoy, enlisted in Company D, Thirteenth New Hampshire Infantry, under the command of Captain John Fair and Colonel Abel Stevens. With his regiment he was ordered to Washington, District of Columbia, and soon afterward participated in the battle of Fredericksburg, which lasted for three days. A short time elapsed, and Mr. Lovejoy became seriously ill and was sent to the Garver hospital at Washington. At length he received a certificate of the surgeon in charge of the institution that he was unfit for further duty on account of his impaired health, was granted an honorable discharge from the army, and of late years has been given a pension by the government. As a citizen he has been noted for his patriotism and high regard for what he considers the duties devolving upon every inhabitant of this great republic. He has acted in the capacity of school director, and was once the president of the township board. In politics he has given his allegiance to the Republican party since its organization. For the past fifty-six years he has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has held the positions of class

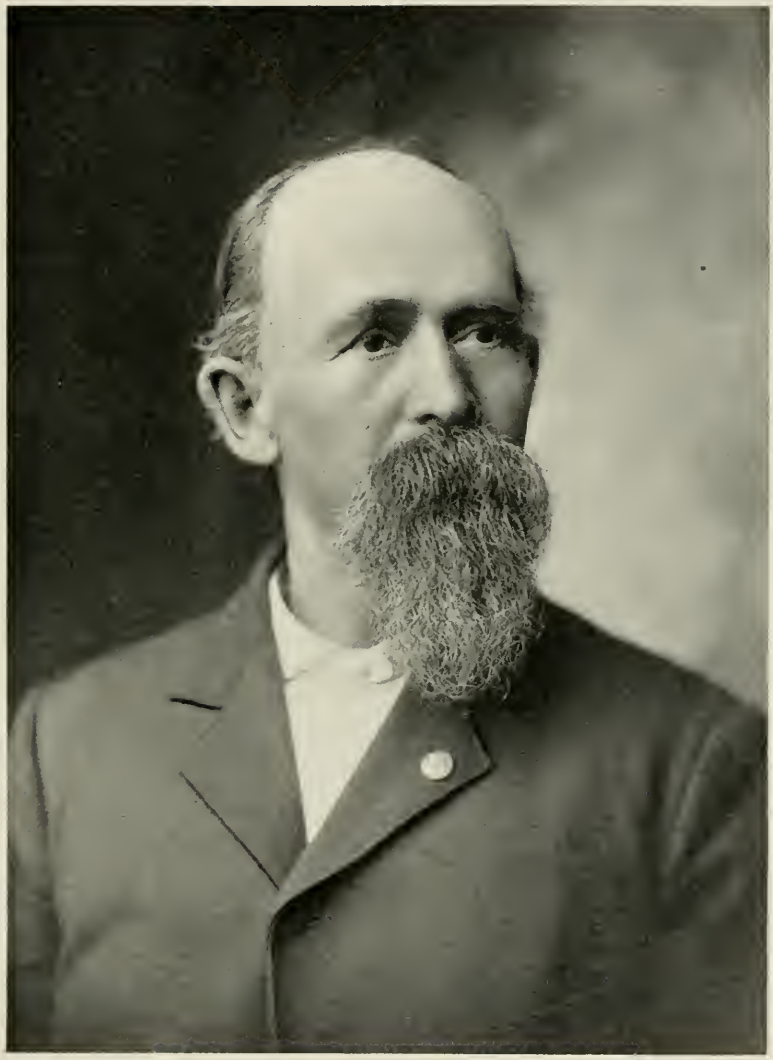
leader for fifty-six years and steward in the congregations to which he has belonged. His zeal and fidelity in church enterprises have been unwavering, and he has always been safely relied upon to uphold every worthy public measure or movement.

December 10, 1841, Mr. Lovejoy married Miss Maria E. Bullis, the eldest daughter of Hera Bullis, of Addison county, Vermont. Six sons and two daughters were born to this estimable couple, namely: Elvira M., who was born June 28, 1844, and married Allen Giffer, a farmer; Cyrus C., born October 9, 1847, and became a Methodist preacher; Arzilla M., born February 10, 1849, and married Rev. A. Ethridge, a minister of the Congregational church; Olin T., born April 18, 1851, became a teacher and served for a time as the president of the board of education of his town, and is serving now; Amen E., born April 8, 1854, and is in business in the state of Washington; Kilburn B., born May 10, 1861, is a truck gardener at Red Wing, Minnesota; Irving B., born June 19, 1864, is a farmer in Ottawa, LaSalle county; and Walter C., born October 3, 1867, is a physician now practicing in Chicago. The mother of these children was born November 15, 1821, and was called to the better land April 7, 1869. On the 17th of November, 1869, Mr. Lovejoy wedded Miss Lorrain L. King, who was born December 6, 1829, at Fairlee, Vermont; and by the latter marriage there was one child, born October 10, 1871, who married Dr. Charles S. Hubbard, and is now residing in Chicago. The last wife of our subject has passed to her eternal rest. She was a lady of many amiable qualities.

FRANCIS M. DAUGHERTY.

Illinois is noted as the leading agricultural state of the Union, the grain raised within her boundaries being shipped to all parts of the world, supplying food for countless numbers, and her fine farms are the subject of general observation. Perhaps no part of the state contains more fertile or better cultivated land than that lying within LaSalle county, and among the most productive and well kept farms of this section is the one owned and operated by the gentleman whose name appears above.

Francis Marion Daugherty was born in Nicholas county, Kentucky, on the 22d of August, 1837, his parents, Thomas and Mary (Swartz) Daugherty, being among the oldest settlers in LaSalle county. John Daugherty, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Indian wars and was a resident of Kentucky, where his son Thomas was born. The latter grew to manhood in that state and there married Miss Mary, daughter of John Swartz. They both lived to attain good old age,—the father passing away



Francis M. Daugherty

in 1894, at the age of seventy-three years, and the mother being seventy-one years of age at the time of her demise. In his political adherency Thomas Daugherty was a Democrat of the old school. He and his wife became the parents of ten children, concerning whom we offer the following epitomized record: John, a resident of Texas county, Missouri; Francis Marion, the immediate subject of this review; Sarah Willis, deceased; Daniel B., whose life was sacrificed on the altar of his country in the war of the Rebellion, in which he served as a corporal of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Rebecca Brown, deceased; Margaret, deceased; Amos, a resident of Chariton county, Missouri; Nancy Ann Smith, of Sumner, that state; and Andrew and Elizabeth, both of whom are deceased.

Francis M. Daugherty came to Illinois in 1858, with his parents, and when he was twenty-four years of age his loyalty and patriotism prompted him to enlist as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served as sergeant. He was offered a commission in the Seventh Kentucky Cavalry, but preferred to remain with his company. He was in a number of the important encounters with the Confederate forces, taking part in the battle of Hartsville and was captured, and also participating in the celebrated battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. He was also in the Atlanta campaign, in which he took part in the engagements at Buzzard's Roost, Rocky Face Ridge, New Hope Church, Peach Tree Creek and the siege of Atlanta, and in the engagement at Eutaw Creek he was wounded. He served three years, or until the close of the war, being mustered out on the 6th June, 1865. He was with his command in following Hood into Alabama, participated in the famous march to the sea, thence through the Carolinas and on to Washington, where he took part in the Grand Review.

Returning home after his effective service in defense of the integrity of the nation, Mr. Daugherty turned his attention to the peaceful vocation of agriculture, locating upon a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is his present place of abode. In the matter of permanent improvements the farm is well equipped, having a good house and substantial and convenient outbuildings, while the place is kept in a fine state of cultivation. Mr. Daugherty is an acknowledged leader in the farming community in which he has so long made his home. He was the first breeder of Poland-China hogs in the county, and was the first man in his township to use tile to drain his land. In politics he renders stanch allegiance to the Republican party and its principles, and fraternally he keeps alive his interest in his old comrades in arms by maintaining membership in Post No. 68, Grand Army of the Republic, at Streator.

On the 15th of November, 1865, was solemnized the marriage of Mr. Daugherty and Miss Ruth Jefferson, daughter of Robert and Ann (Lock) Jefferson. Of this union nine children were born, of whom seven yet survive. Of the children we give the following brief record: Thomas, a commercial traveler, who resides in Streator, married Miss Lida D. Sederbrand, of that place; Mary Alberta, a successful teacher, is now the wife of F. K. Garver, a commercial traveler of South Bend, Indiana; Robert married Emma E. Holland, of Streator; Jane, wife of Dr. C. G. Reno, of Louisville, Kentucky, was a successful teacher in Otter Creek township, this county; Hattie P. is a graduate of the Streator high school, in the class of 1899; Francis is a student in the Streator high school; William D. is the next in order of birth; Anna died at the tender age of three years; and Rosa, a young woman of exceptional talent, who was a very successful teacher and who gave great promise for the future, was summoned to her heavenly home at the untimely age of twenty-two years, deeply mourned by a wide circle of devoted friends.

Robert Jefferson, the father of Mrs. Daugherty, was a native of England, and his wife was born in Ireland. They came to America and at first took up their residence in Michigan, whence they later came to DeKalb county, Illinois, and from there, in 1852, to Streator, where they passed the residue of their days. The mother died at the age of sixty years, but the father survived her many years, attaining the venerable age of ninety-one years. He was a lifelong Republican, and both he and his wife were members of and earnest workers in the Methodist Episcopal church. They became the parents of five children, namely: Alexander, deceased; Mary Richards, of Bruce township, this county; William, who was a soldier in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, participated in all the battles in which his company took part, and on July 21, 1864, while on the skirmish line in front of Atlanta, he was killed by a Confederate sharpshooter; Thomas, who also was a soldier, was a member of Company E, Twenty-sixth Illinois Regiment, and he died at Scotsboro, Alabama, April 17, 1865, from an attack of pneumonia; and Ruth, who was born near Romeo, Macomb county, Michigan, June 15, 1842, is the wife of Mr. Daugherty, the immediate subject of this sketch.

WILLIAM F. McNAMARA.

Young Irish blood is having a powerful influence in the municipalities of the west. This is true no less of the small cities than the large ones. At the head of the municipal government of LaSalle is a man of thirty-two, who has been prominently connected with it since he was twenty-two years

of age. This man is certainly young for one of his prominence and experience. Both lines of his family descent have been Irish of the purest blood.

William F. McNamara was born on a farm in LaSalle county, Illinois, March 16, 1867, a son of Michael J. and Bridget (Burke) McNamara. Michael J. McNamara was a son of Martin McNamara, and was born at Schenectady, New York, and came with his father to LaSalle county in 1847. The family located first at LaSalle, and later on a farm some distance from that town, where Martin McNamara died. The parents of Bridget Burke settled in the county about 1847 also. After their marriage Michael and Bridget (Burke) McNamara located on a farm in LaSalle county, and lived upon it until 1884, when they removed to LaSalle, where Mr. McNamara embarked in the grocery trade, in which he has since continued with success.

When his parents came to LaSalle William F. McNamara, future mayor of the city, was seventeen years old. He had spent his life thus far since his childhood in helping his father about the farm work and attending the public schools. After the family took up their residence in LaSalle he was for several years a student at the parochial school of the Brothers of St. Patrick at LaSalle. At twenty-one he became a clerk in a clothing store, and was thus employed for eight years.

Mr. McNamara's political experience began in 1889, when, as a Democrat, he was elected alderman, and by successive re-elections he filled that office until 1897, when he was elected mayor, which office he still holds, and which he has filled with a zeal and ability that have made him popular with all classes of citizens.

Mr. McNamara is a Roman Catholic, and is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Royal Arcanum, the Court of Honor, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of America, and is always prominently identified with every movement having for its object the enhancement of the welfare of the people of LaSalle and LaSalle county.

THOMAS N. HASKINS.

Thomas N. Haskins, a prominent attorney of LaSalle, was born October 29, 1862, in this city. He is a son of Thomas and Mary (White) Haskins, both of whom were born in Ireland. They were married in Lexington, Missouri, and moved to LaSalle in 1850, since which time they have resided here. The father was a large contractor and dealer in lumber at one time, and later lived on a farm in Woodford county for three years before moving to LaSalle.

Thomas N. Haskins was reared in LaSalle and received his education in that city during his early years. This was supplemented with a three-year course in the Seminary of Our Lady of the Angels, now the University of Niagara. Returning home he learned the trade of carpenter, at which he worked only a short time, as it proved most uncongenial labor. He had an inordinate love of books and decided to choose for his vocation the profession of law. Accordingly he began his studies in the office of the firm of Meer, Duncan & O'Conor; had soon mastered the intricacies of that profession, and was admitted to the bar in January, 1887. He has been a practitioner in this city ever since, first in the firm of Hall & Haskins, then alone, afterward in the firm of Duncan, O'Conor & Haskins, later as Duncan, Haskins & Panneck, and still later as Haskins & Panneck, which is the style of the firm at this time. He is a lawyer of more than average ability, keen and shrewd in his judgment, and a forcible speaker who carries conviction to the mind of his hearers.

In 1890 he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Conerton, of Dimmick, this state. They are both devout members of the Roman Catholic church, and are highly esteemed for their many worthy qualities. Mr. Haskins is also connected with a number of fraternal orders, belonging to Royal Arcanum, the Modern Woodmen of America and Court of Honor. In politics he is a strong Democrat, and for four years made one of the ablest and most efficient city attorneys ever elected to that office in LaSalle. In 1894 he was the party candidate for state senator, and in 1897 was in the field as candidate for circuit judge, in both races receiving a flattering vote. He has many friends in both parties, and is deservedly popular among the great mass of people, as well for his kindly, genial manner as his upright honesty of purpose.

M. J. WELSH.

The subject of this review is one of the popular and well-known citizens of Brookfield township, LaSalle county. His entire life has been spent in this locality, for he is one of LaSalle county's native sons. His birth occurred in 1866, his parents being Thomas E. and Ellen Welsh, both of whom were natives of Ireland. The father was a farmer by occupation, and in 1849 became a resident of this county, making his home here until his death, which occurred in 1887. He had a family of four sons and four daughters, namely: Edward, who died in 1885, at the age of twenty-four; Dennis, of Verona, Illinois; Mrs. Dennis O'Donnell, who resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Mrs. William Coughlin, of Brookfield township; Thomas, Ella and Mary, of Seneca, Illinois; and M. J., the subject of this review.

Mr. Welsh, whose name heads this article, was reared in LaSalle county, and early became familiar with all the duties and labors of the agriculturist. He attended the public schools and later was a student in the college at Valparaiso, Indiana. At the age of eighteen years he began teaching school and successfully followed that profession for ten years, his services giving excellent satisfaction in the schools where he was employed. Since that time he has devoted his energies uninterruptedly to his farming interests. He owns, occupies and operates two hundred and forty acres of land, which is under a high state of cultivation, the well-tilled fields yielding to the owner a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon them. He follows progressive methods in his farming operations, is practical and enterprising, and has one of the best-improved farms in his township.

Mr. Welsh has been twice married. On the 4th of October, 1894, he wedded Miss Maggie McCormick, of Seneca, a lady of intelligence and natural refinement, but in less than a year they were separated by death, Mrs. Welsh being called to her final rest July 10, 1895. On the 27th of February, 1897, Mr. Welsh was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Sheedy, of Brookfield township, and they now have an interesting little son, Joseph Russell.

In his political affiliations Mr. Welsh is a Democrat, and is now serving his sixth year as supervisor. He was also the town clerk for a number of years, and his retention in public office plainly indicates the fidelity with which he discharges his duties. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America. Mr. Welsh is a gentleman of enterprise, of frank and genial manner, and is very popular, his commendable qualities winning him favor with all with whom he comes in contact.

JOHN B. ULRICH, JR.

John B. Ulrich is one of the prominent and progressive young farmers of Dayton township, LaSalle county, and is a worthy son of one of the honored early settlers of this county. His father, John B. Ulrich, Sr., was born in Alsace, France, about seventy-seven years ago, and in early life emigrated to this country, settling in Northville township, LaSalle county, Illinois, where he was subsequently united in marriage to Miss Sophia Hubrecht. Here he reared his family and here for a period of sixty years he has been prominently connected with the material prosperity of his township.

The younger John B. Ulrich dates his birth in Northville township April 11, 1861. He was reared to farm life, and has always been engaged

in agricultural pursuits. He has only recently taken up his abode in Dayton township, but has already thoroughly identified himself with its interests.

Mr. Ulrich was married January 25, 1893, to Mrs. Mary E. Marshall. Mrs. Ulrich is a daughter of Edward Retz, one of the early Alsatian settlers of Northville township, and a man highly respected throughout the county. Her first husband, Edward Marshall, was a son of John L. Marshall, and she has one son, Edward J. Marshall, born January 30, 1880. Also by her present husband Mrs. Ulrich has one child, Rosalie Sophia Margarete, born March 18, 1894.

DAVID RUDE.

It is gratifying in this age to meet a man who has had the courage to face the battle of life with strong heart and steady hand and carve out for himself a competence, beginning at the very foot of the ladder and mounting to success when the whole world seemed against him and he had no capital with which to woo the fickle goddess of fortune.

Such has been the record of David Rude, who was born in Ashfield, Franklin county, Massachusetts, May 7, 1831, and at the tender age of thirteen took upon his young shoulders the task of a wage-earner, a task that has proved too much for many an older head. He is a son of Thaddeus and Betsie (Vincent) Rude, both natives of Massachusetts. The father was born in Franklin county, and was a son of Thaddeus, who was born at New Salem, that state. They were of Scotch-Irish lineage, and settled in the state of Connecticut, whence they emigrated to Massachusetts. Thaddeus Rude, Jr., was a farmer and married Betsie Vincent, who was born in Denis, Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and was of English descent. Her ancestors were among the early settlers of that state, and she was related to Miles Standish, the brave Puritan leader. The father died at Ashfield in 1833, in his thirty-ninth year, leaving his widow with eight children to rear to adult years. They were Arial, who died in Massachusetts in 1837; Elizabeth, Thaddeus, Hannah, Alfred, Mary, David and Harriett. The mother did all in her power for her children, and was assisted by them when they arrived at years when their services would be of use to her. A number of the children came west to Illinois, and here the mother followed them, settling in Lamoille, this state, where she died in 1886, at the age of ninety-three years, conscious of a life well spent and a victorious struggle in behalf of her fatherless little ones.

David Rude remained on the farm until he was thirteen years of age, and was able to obtain but little literary education, attending school for about three years, some three months each winter. At the age of thirteen he

started out as a peddler of notions, traveling through the country and small towns of Massachusetts with a pack on his back and selling notions and small wares. This was continued until he was eighteen, when he was married, and within a few weeks thereafter came west with his brother Thaddeus, who had married a sister of Mrs. David Rude and located at Lamoille on farm land. They remained there ten years and were joined there by the mother and brothers and sisters, except Alfred. In 1860 our subject moved to Lamoille, where he engaged in general merchandising, although he retained his interest in farm lands, and now owns some seven or eight hundred acres in Iowa. Three years later he purchased a furniture store in Mendota, Illinois, and in March, 1865, made this city his home. He sold the furniture store in 1868 and took the position of bookkeeper for his brother Thaddeus, who was in the grain business. In 1871 he purchased a hardware store, first being associated with L. R. Curtis and later with George Holland, who is still in the business with him. This has proved to be a paying investment and has prospered under the management of Mr. Rude until it is the leading store of its kind in Mendota. In all his business transactions he has met with success, and he has never been without money from the day he worked for Deacon Newton in Massachusetts for six months for the munificent sum of thirty dollars (!) until the present time.

On September 20, 1849, at the age of eighteen, he was united in marriage with Miss Philena Hall, of Hawley, Massachusetts. The ceremony was celebrated in Vermont by the famous Universalist minister, Hosea Ballou, and the happy life thus inaugurated lasted until January 11, 1888, when death claimed Mrs. Rude. November 29, 1888, Mr. Rude married Mary A. Whitney, a most estimable lady. Mr. Rude is not a member of any church, but contributes with a generous hand to the cause of religion, charity or education. He was formerly an Abolitionist, but has voted with the Republican party since he cast his first vote for Fremont. He was chiefly instrumental in establishing the electric-light plant in Mendota, and has become closely identified with the city from his long residence and public spirit, and is among the leading and most highly respected residents of the city.

JOHN B. OSTRANDER.

John B. Ostrander, proprietor of the Covel Creek House in South Ottawa township, LaSalle county, is one of the well-known men of the township. He has himself been a traveler to a considerable extent, having made the trip to the Pacific coast three times, and understands the business of catering to the traveling public.

Mr. Ostrander is a New Yorker by birth. He was born near Corinth,

in Saratoga county, of the Empire state, May 31, 1824, a son of New York parents. His father, Joseph P. Ostrander, was a native of Rensselaer county, while his mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Barber, was born in Tompkins county, both representatives of old and well-known families. John Ostrander, the grandfather of John B., was a Revolutionary soldier. His parents came to this country from Holland. Joseph B. Ostrander and wife came to Illinois in 1852 and settled in Livingston county, where he died. The mother of our subject died in Boone county, Iowa, at the age of seventy-three years. The father was twice married, and had two children by the first wife and five by the second. Of this number three are now living: John B., whose name initiates this review; Mrs. Jane Tombaugh, of Livingston county, Illinois; and Mrs. Hannah Clark, of Boone county, Iowa.

John B. was reared in Erie county, New York, and there learned the trade of carpenter. He came out to Illinois in 1844 and was employed in work at his trade here until the California gold "fever" broke out in 1849, when he was among its victims. He made the trip overland by stage to California in 1863, spent some time at "Hangtown;" or Placerville, and returned east by way of the isthmus of Panama, again taking up his abode in Illinois. He was variously employed for some years, made several moves, going in 1875 to Colorado, where he remained a short time, and finally settled down to the hotel business. He conducted a hotel at Marseilles, Illinois, for some years previous to his taking charge of the Covel Creek House, which he is now running, and which has long been a favorite resort for travelers.

Mr. Ostrander was married in 1849, at Deer Park, LaSalle county, Illinois, to Miss Nancy Latham, a native of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, born in 1834, a daughter of Lyman S. and Mary A. (Gollop) Latham, both natives of Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Latham came west to Livingston county, Illinois, in 1838, and resided here until 1862, when they went to California. Both parents died in the Golden state,—the father at the age of sixty-five years, the mother at eighty-four. In their family were eight children, four sons and four daughters, Mrs. Ostrander being the only one now living in LaSalle county. Mr. and Mrs. Ostrander have had nine children, six of whom are living, viz.: Helen, wife of Ed Udell, of Rantoul, Illinois; Bellzora, wife of John Poundstone, of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county; Mary, wife of John A. Sale, of Rantoul, Illinois; Charles H., principal of a public school in Chicago; Frank M., a carpenter at Mazon, Grundy county, Illinois; and Albert N., at home, a carpenter. The three deceased are Viola, who died at the age of five years; Augusta J., at the age of fifteen months; and Arthur, at the age of twenty-one years. The last named was a promising young man and successful teacher.

Politically Mr. Ostrander is a Republican, taking a commendable interest in public affairs, and has filled several local offices. As a citizen he stands in high esteem.

SIMON T. OSGOOD.

The standing of a town or community is measured by the character of its business men, and in this respect Marseilles is especially fortunate. For about a quarter of a century Simon T. Osgood, one of its most progressive and enterprising citizens, has been closely associated with its upbuilding and prosperity, and with the patriotic spirit of all true Americans has used his influence and means in the support of worthy public industries and undertakings, upholding the law and good government and everything else making for the permanent good of the people.

The Osgood family, to which our subject belongs, is one of the oldest and most honored of New England, it having been founded here in 1638 by one John Osgood, an Englishman, and his wife, Sarah. They settled at first in Andover, Essex county, Massachusetts, and several generations of their descendants have lived in the Bay state. The great-grandfather of our subject was Josiah Osgood, and the great-great-grandfather bore the Christian name of David. The grandfather, Luther Osgood, was born in Wendell, Massachusetts, June 20, 1780, and when the war of 1812 was being waged with England he served in the ranks of the American army. For a wife he chose Miss Joanna (Beaman) Osgood, of Sterling and Wendell, Massachusetts.

The parents of Simon T. Osgood were Luther P. and Catherine (Toll) Osgood, the latter a daughter of Simon and Susan (Conde) Toll, and born in the Mohawk valley in 1821. In 1852 the Osgood family removed to LaSalle county, Illinois, and located upon a farm in Brookfield township. The father became one of the successful and influential agriculturists of that section, and at the time of his death, in 1889, he left a valuable estate, as a result of his well-applied energy and business acumen. Both himself and wife were prominent members of the Baptist church, and led worthy, upright Christian lives. The wife and mother did not long survive her husband, as she received her summons to the silent land in 1890. Of their children Lucy M. is the wife of George Marsh, of Washington, District of Columbia; Susan Condee is the widow of Henry Upton, late of Pierce, Nebraska; Catherine married Charles M. Carpenter, of Rock Rapids, Iowa; Frances P. is the wife of Marshall M. Armstrong, of Ottawa, Illinois; and Henry D., Luther P., Simon T., and Charles DeWitt are all residents of Marseilles.

Born in the town of Verona, Oneida county, New York, March 14, 1843, Simon T. Osgood lived in his native place for four years, after which he passed five years in Oswego county, same state. Since 1852 he has dwelt in LaSalle county, and until 1875 was connected with the agricultural interests of Brookfield township. For many years he was associated in the grain business with Isaac Gage, also operating a planing-mill and dealing extensively in lumber until after the death of the senior partner. Since 1890 Mr. Osgood has devoted his time and attention chiefly to the real-estate business, and has bought and sold large tracts of land in the western states. He owns considerable property in this county as well as elsewhere, and has amassed a large fortune by his excellent financiering.

On the 22d of January, 1868, Mr. Osgood married Miss Louisa C. Gage, of Brookfield township. She is the eldest daughter of Isaac and Lucy (Little) Gage, and was born and reared in the township just mentioned. The following named children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Osgood: Edgar G.; Harriet L., wife of Howard McCullough, of Marseilles; Susan Conde, now a resident of Phoenix, Arizona, and the wife of Rev. George H. Brewer; Isaac Gage, who married Lottie Estelle Drakley, the youngest daughter of Thomas Drakley, of Manlius township, and is managing the old homestead in Brookfield township; Lucy L., a student in the Chicago university; John L., attending Morgan Park Academy, near Chicago; and Beman F., Simon Milford and Catherine Toll, at home.

Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Osgood are Baptists, belonging to the Marseilles church, where he has acted in the capacity of deacon for a score of years or more. Politically Mr. Osgood is a Republican, and for several years has been one of the trustees of Marseilles. He is a man with high ideals of duty, and to his children he will leave an honorable record, of which they will have just cause to be proud.

JAMES L. HILL.

James L. Hill resides near Kernan, and is one of the most popular and progressive young farmers of LaSalle county, where he was born February 24, 1869. His parents were Thork and Elizebeth (Engleson) Hill. His father was born in Norway in 1840, and when a lad of fifteen came to the United States and made his home in this county. In 1862 he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry, under Captain J. J. McKinnan, and took part in a number of engagements, among them the battles of Hartsville, Tennessee, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. He was in the grand review at Washington, District of Columbia, and re-

ceived his honorable discharge in June, 1865. His wife was Miss Elizebeth Engleson, who was born in Norway, and was a daughter of James Engleson, deceased. He took his young wife to a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he had purchased and which they utilized with unremitting care. Prosperity attended their efforts, and they were able to add to their original purchase until they had a farm of two hundred and fifty acres of fertile farm land. A family of six children grew up around them, viz.: Serena, who was formerly a successful teacher, and is now the wife of Elmer Remey, of Muncie, Indiana; James L., our subject; Bertha M., a popular teacher in Streator, this state; Allie B., wife of Peter Peterson, of Otter Creek township; Rosa D., who is engaged in teaching school; and Lizzie T., who is yet a student. The mother resides at Streator, and the father died June 13, 1894, at the age of fifty-four years. He was a Republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic at Ransom.

James L. Hill grew to manhood in his native township (Otter Creek), attending the public schools in winter and working on the farm in summer, and later taking hold of the more serious duties of life with a vim that bespoke success and won for him the hearty approval and commendation of even the most critical. He acquired a good common-school education, and was well prepared to enter upon his career in the pursuits of agriculture in an intelligent manner. Developing a predilection for the carpenter's trade, he entered the employ of S. W. Egbert, a contractor of Streator, and for three years gave his whole time and attention to learning the business. At length, however, owing to the failing health of his father, he returned to the farm and managed it with vigor and magnificent success. He takes great pleasure and pride in having only the best, his specialty being the breeding of high-grade poultry.

November 28, 1894, he was united in matrimony with Miss Stella M. Hayes, a daughter of Henry and Emma Hayes, of Wedron, in which place Mrs. Hill was brought up and educated. October 16, 1899, to this worthy couple twins were born, named Glen O. and Gale E.

Mr. Hill is a Republican in his politics, and has served his township one term as constable, one term as a school trustee and two terms as a collector.

FRANK L. HOWE.

Among the prosperous farmers of Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, may be mentioned Frank L. Howe, whose postoffice address is Seneca. He was born in the township in which he lives, January 17, 1860, a son of Isaac W. and Alma (Packer) Howe, who were among the early settlers of LaSalle county, and who lived on their farm in Miller township

for many years, rearing their family here. Their five children, now scattered and settled in life, are as follows: Jenny, wife of E. R. Butterfield, of St. Lawrence, South Dakota; John B., of Kentland, Indiana; Ida, wife of W. J. Thomas, of Seneca, Illinois; Charles, also of Seneca; and Frank L., whose name forms the heading of this sketch. The mother of these children was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Frank L. Howe passed his boyhood days as other farmer boys, assisting in the farm work and attending the public schools, and when he grew up engaged in agricultural pursuits on his own account. He has been successful in his operations, has acquired considerable property, and is one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of the county.

Mr. Howe was married September 27, 1882, to Miss Mary Velma Fry, a native of Grundy county, Illinois, and a daughter of Simon and Achsah (Wilson) Fry. Mr. Fry was a Virginian, who went from that state to Indiana in 1836, and in 1840 came over into Illinois, where he made a permanent settlement. Here he married Miss Wilson, the daughter of William Wilson, a native of New York state. The fruits of their union were four children, namely: Andrew J., who died at the age of seventeen years; Aaron Burr, a resident of LaSalle county; Mary V., wife of Mr. Howe; and Jeannette, wife of F. A. Mossman, of Nettle Creek township, Grundy county. Mr. and Mrs. Howe have two children: Edna M., born April 24, 1885; and James Wallace, born September 16, 1889.

Mr. Howe's father was a Democrat, and he also gives his support to this party.

WILLIAM T. BEDFORD.

William Turner Bedford, editor and proprietor of the LaSalle Tribune, first saw the light of day on September 18, 1863, in Surrey, England, and was a member of one of the most prominent families of that community. His grandfather, Joshua Thomas Bedford, represented the ward of Farrington Without in the London common council for a period of more than thirty years, and at his death was succeeded by his brother, John T. Bedford, who is still a member of that council. His father was William Henry Bedford, who died in 1872. William H. was united in marriage to Miss Ellen Thornton, a daughter of the late General Thornton, who distinguished himself while fighting with the allied armies of England and France, against Russia, in the Crimean war of 1854.

William Turner Bedford received his education in his mother country, graduating in 1879 at Christ's College, London, with the honors of the class. He was an apt pupil and diligent in his studies, and the energy which marked

Wm. T. Bedford

his school days has figured prominently in his business career. His first business experience began on the staff in the correspondence department of the large wholesale dry-goods firm of Copestake, Hughes, Crampton & Company. Having read much of the advantages to be gained in America, he determined to try his fortune in this country and early in 1884 sailed for the United States. He landed in New York in February of the same year and at once came to LaSalle, where for a short time he was engaged in the insurance business, but not for a long period. His ability in the newspaper field was soon recognized and he was offered the position of editor of the Peru Daily News-Herald. He was the LaSalle editor of this publication for six years, and to his efforts, largely, is attributed the success of that paper. In June, 1891, he succeeded A. L. Hennessy as editor and publisher of the LaSalle Republican. He changed the name of the paper to the LaSalle Weekly Tribune, and on July 1st of that year issued the first number of the LaSalle Daily Tribune. Although started on a very modest scale, the Tribune now occupies a most enviable position among the newspapers of this county and is essentially the people's paper, giving the news in a comprehensive and interesting form. Mr. Bedford's untiring work in making his paper an excellent one is appreciated by the public and has enabled him to place it on a secure financial basis which is flattering in the extreme. The Tribune is Republican in tone and is earnest and fearless in its advocacy of what it considers right, and equally fearless in its denunciation of wrong, gaining it many supporters among Democrats as well as Republicans; for what the people want is honest convictions, boldly uttered.

Mr. Bedford was married October 20, 1892, to Miss Anna Elizabeth, daughter of George B. Treat, of LaSalle. Being of a social disposition he has attached himself to a number of fraternal orders, being a member of De Soto Lodge, Knights of Pythias; LaSalle Lodge, Mystic Workers of the World; and Deer Park Camp, Modern Woodmen of America. He is always prominent in the councils of the Republican party, and for four years has represented his city on the county central committee. Although a young man he has attained a wide degree of popularity, and the industry and perseverance which have characterized his past bespeak for him an even more successful future.

L. J. GROVE.

L. J. Grove was born January 29, 1842, and is a son of Joseph and Elma N. (Jackson) Grove, and a grandson of John and Barbara (Limberger) Grove, the grandfather being a native Virginian. Joseph Grove was born in Licking county, Ohio, December 28, 1806, and remained there until he

was a young man of twenty-five years. He then left that state and came to LaSalle county, Illinois, making the trip on horseback. He purchased the farm which is now occupied by our subject and became one of the most successful farmers of this region. In 1838 he was married to Miss Elma N. Jackson, a native of the state of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jesse Jackson, who came to LaSalle county at an early day. The children born to them were as follows: Jesse, of Rutland township; L. J., our subject; Elmira, wife of George Pitzer, of Rutland township; Samantha, wife of Winkfield L. Appling, of Wichita, Kansas; Mary, wife of H. L. Loring, of this township; Minerva, who died in childhood; Jeremiah, who died in the civil war; David L., who went to South America, and John, who died in Nevada, Story county, Iowa, and left a widow and two children. The hardships and privations endured by those early inhabitants of our state in its wild, uncultivated condition, were enough to make the stoutest heart quail, and they left their impress on Mr. Grove, completely shattering his health and enfeebling his constitution, and eventually, at the age of fifty-two years, his life was the forfeit. The mother reached the age of fifty-seven years, when she too passed through the valley of the shadow of death.

L. J. Grove was educated in LaSalle county, where he grew to manhood. The first school which he attended was held in a log school-house, with the most primitive furnishings. The farm upon which he now resides was purchased by him in 1866, and contains two hundred and forty acres of valuable farm land, while the barn, an immense structure which was put up in 1888, would be noticeable in any locality. The main part of the structure is forty by sixty-four feet, with an "L" thirty-four by forty feet, while the posts used in its construction measure twenty-four feet. In 1894 our subject erected a handsome residence, at a cost of three thousand two hundred dollars, from which a beautiful view of the surrounding country can be seen, and it is conceded that he has one of the most attractive places in LaSalle county.

He was married December 28, 1865, to Miss Malinda Pitzer, daughter of William and Sarah (Kite) Pitzer, early settlers of this county. Five children have resulted from this union. Their only son, William L. Grove, was born on May 25, 1869, and December 12, 1893, he married Rose A., an adopted daughter of F. A. Forbes, of Seneca. Two children have been born to them,—Etta Pearl, who died at the age of two years and nine months, and one son, Lucian, born December 3, 1898. The daughters of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Grove are Etta, wife of Arthur Long, of Miller township; Cora Mabel and Belle, at home. One child died in infancy. Mr. Grove and family are attendants of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which they are members, and are liberal contributors to its cause. He is a believer in the principles

of the Democracy, and gives his support to that party, and is at present a faithful member of the school board. He is a man who commands the respect and confidence of every one, and his kindly nature is ever prompting him to deeds of mercy.

ALBERT WILLIAMSON.

Among the popular young business men of Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is Albert Williamson, proprietor of a general store and the postmaster at Danway.

Mr. Williamson is a native of the township in which he lives, born February 15, 1870, and is of Norwegian descent. His father, Endre Williamson, was born in Norway in 1819; his mother was, before marriage, Miss Christina Gunnerson. They were the parents of ten children, three of whom are deceased. Those living are as follows: William E., Martin E., Milton C., Albert, Cordelia, Knutson and Theodore H., the last named on the old Williamson homestead,—all residents of Miller township. The father of these children died some years ago, and their mother died August 5, 1899.

Albert Williamson was educated in the public schools and the Pleasant View College, and after leaving the latter institution secured a position as clerk in a dry-goods store. As clerk he became familiar with every detail of the business, was employed in this capacity for several months, and last year he purchased the general store at Danway, which he is successfully conducting, and where by his uniform courtesy and his honorable business methods he has won a large circle of friends. Politically he is a Democrat. Religiously a Lutheran. He was appointed postmaster in 1899.

FRANK D. MOULTON.

Frank D. Moulton, one of Ottawa's best citizens, was born in Chicago, the great and wonderful metropolis of Illinois, May 14, 1860, the only child of George W. Moulton and Lina Daniels Moulton. His mother died in the centennial year, when her son Frank was a youth of sixteen.

Much of the life of our subject has been passed in the city of his birth, to whose fine public schools he is indebted for the excellent education which he possesses. He graduated at the Chicago high school in 1879, at the age of nineteen years, and soon afterward accepted a position as clerk in a large wholesale mercantile establishment. The years of 1890 and 1891 he spent in New York city and Baltimore, as timekeeper on elevators being constructed by J. T. Moulton & Son, grain elevator contractors. But he re-

turned to the west, better satisfied with the enterprise and business activity which prevails here. Since 1881 he has been a resident of Ottawa, which place he intends to make his permanent home. He is now engaged with the Pioneer Fireproof Construction Company, and has met with success and has won an enviable reputation among the citizens of Ottawa as a man of sterling uprightness and reliability in all his dealings.

The marriage of Mr. Moulton and Miss Mabelle Ashley, a graduate of the Ottawa high school, and a lady of many attractive characteristics, was solemnized November 8, 1894. Mrs. Moulton is the daughter of Thomas E. and Anna M. Ashley. Mr. and Mrs. Moulton have two children,—George Franklin, born December 14, 1895, and Lina Maria, born March 28, 1899.

Fraternally Mr. Moulton is a Knight of Pythias, and has served as master of finance of his lodge several years. He is also a member of the Uniformed Rank, K. of P., and has been recorder many years. Politically Mr. Moulton is associated with the Republican party. He is a member of the Baptist church, and is a valued worker in the Sunday-school, contributing liberally of his time, means and influence to the advancement of Christianity and high and noble principles of living.

Mr. Moulton is a cousin of George M. Moulton, colonel of the Second Regiment, I. N. G., who served in the late war in Cuba and afterward was a member of Colonel Fitzhugh Lee's staff in Havana.

JOSEPH C. HITTER.

Joseph C. Hitter is a native of Otter Creek township, born January 6, 1856, where he now resides, near Streator, LaSalle county, and is a son of Henry and Augusta (Weler) Hitter. Henry Hitter was of German descent, his ancestors having made their home in Saxony for many decades. He was among the early settlers of LaSalle county, was married in Streator to Miss Augusta Weler, and located at Willow Park. Later he moved to Chicago, where he now resides. He is a Republican in his political views, and in religion a devout member of the Evangelical church. Six children compose their family, viz.: John, of Iroquois county; William, who died in infancy; Joseph C., the subject of this biography; George, of Iroquois county; Melissa (Mrs. Charles Iserman), of this township; and Emily Nolan, of Chicago.

Joseph C. Hitter received his education in the public schools of LaSalle county, and after completing his education turned his attention to farming. Realizing that whatever he achieved must be by his own unaided ef-

forts, he applied himself diligently to his chosen task, and is to-day one of the most substantial and influential citizens of his locality, a self-made man in the truest sense of the word. His farm is supplied with good, comfortable buildings, and shows that neatness and care have been used in its management.

January 3, 1878, he led to the altar Miss Carrie Iserman, daughter of William Iserman, a prominent farmer residing in this township. She is a native of this county, where she was educated and grew to womanhood, and her many excellent qualities of mind and heart have endeared her to a large circle of friends. An interesting family of eight children have blessed their home, the two older, Estella B. and Lillie E., being employed as teachers in the public schools, where they have met with success. Nora E., Josie N., Ida A., Lawrence A., and Pearl W. constitute the other members of the family, Clarence J. having died in infancy. Mr. Hitter has been warmly interested in the cause of education, and for a number of years was one of the most efficient members of the school board, making the opportunity, if none was offered, for promoting educational interests. Furthermore Mr. Hitter is greatly interested in public roads, having held the office as commissioner of highways for nine successive years in Otter Creek township. His family are extremely popular in the social circles in which they move, and their integrity and fundamental worth have won for them general approval and respect.

W. GUY ROSEBERY.

W. Guy Rosebery, the principal of Brown's Business College at Ottawa, is an educator well known in this section of the state, and his marked devotion to the profession he has chosen, combined with actual ability, has gained him deserved prestige. He was born in Madison county, Illinois, near the historic towns of Edwardsville and Alton. His father, Robert A. Rosebery, is well and favorably known throughout the county. The Gillhams, of which family his mother was a member, and the Roseberys were among the first settlers of southern Illinois, and are to-day prominent in political, educational and social affairs.

Mr. Rosebery acquired his education in the public schools of Madison and Montgomery counties, and in the Peoria high school. He prepared for his work as a business educator by a thorough course in Brown's Peoria Business College, one of the leading schools of the kind in the country, and by private tutor. After teaching for about five years in the Peoria Business College he came to Ottawa, in 1896, having been elected the principal of the commercial department of Pleasant View College. He remained here for

three years, giving his best efforts to the work and establishing this department on a very thorough and practical basis. In July, 1899, he resigned his position at this school to become the principal of Brown's Ottawa Business College, to which institution he is now devoting all his energies. This school is a part of the system known as Brown's Business Colleges, seven large and successful schools being under one management. Professor G. W. Brown, of Jacksonville, Illinois, is the president, and the various schools are located respectively at Jacksonville, Peoria, Decatur, Galesburg, Bloomington, Centralia and Ottawa. Brown's Business College made a splendid exhibit at the educational exhibit at the World's Fair, receiving both diplomas and medals. Professor Brown was the manager of the business educational exhibit at the World's Fair, having been selected by the business colleges of America. Professor Rosebery has made the business college at Ottawa of equal prominence and proficiency with the others.

His reputation in educational circles is indeed enviable. He holds a World's Fair diploma, issued by the board of lady managers to the business educators who prepared students to assist in the business college exhibit at the World's Fair. He is a member of the Business Teachers' Association, the Western Penman's Association and the Federation of Commercial Teachers of America.

Mr. Rosebery was married in January, 1900, to Miss Addielou Grant, of Newport, Vermont, the daughter of Theophilus Grant, one of the prominent residents of the state.

CHARLES P. SALLADAY.

Among the representative citizens of the town of Streator, Illinois, is Charles P. Salladay, local manager of the Armour Packing Company. He is a "Hoosier" by nativity, born in Albion, Noble county, Indiana, October 22, 1861, a son of Samuel H. and Mary Ann (Russell) Salladay.

Samuel H. Salladay was a son of James Salladay and was born in Kentucky in 1813. By occupation he was a farmer. The greater part of his life was spent in Indiana, but when well advanced in years he went to Clinton, Iowa, where he died in 1898. The mother of our subject, Mary A. Russell, was born in Ohio in 1823, her parents having moved at an early day from Vermont to that state. She died in 1890. In their family were seven children, three daughters and four sons, of which number four lived to adult age, the others dying in infancy. Only two are now living,—Charles P. and his sister, Mrs. C. S. Maltby, a resident of Iowa.

Charles P. Salladay spent the first thirteen years of his life in his native town, Albion, Indiana. Then he moved with his parents to Mercer county,

Illinois, and for a time attended school at Alexis, Illinois, following which he was for three years a student in Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois. He concluded his schooling with one year at Davenport, Iowa. Then he entered the employ of the Armour Packing Company, at Davenport, where he remained thus occupied until 1895. That year he was transferred to Streator, Illinois, and placed in charge of the company's business as local manager for Streator and neighboring towns in LaSalle and adjacent counties.

In 1896 Mr. Salladay was united in marriage to Miss Sue Atherton, of Streator, where she was born, daughter of George H. Atherton. Mr. and Mrs. Salladay have one son,—George Harrison, born March 10, 1897.

Fraternally the subject of our sketch is identified with several organizations, including Emulation Lodge, F. and A. M., of Clinton, Iowa; Columbus Lodge, No. 333, K. of P., of Davenport, Iowa; and Streator Lodge, Modern Woodmen of America.

PROF. CHARLES ORRIN SOLBERG, A. M., B. D.

Pleasant View Luther college, one of the representative educational institutions of Ottawa, and indeed of this section of Illinois, has not long been in the field, yet has gained a very enviable reputation. It is conceded by all that a better place of training for the young would be hard to find, as here not only his mind but his heart and higher nature as well are cultivated, and he goes forth to fight the battle of life well equipped in every respect. The college is mentioned at some length in the sketch of the president, Rev. L. A. Vigness.

The parents of Professor C. O. Solberg are Halvor and Anna (Natesta) Solberg, his father being a native of Norway. Charles is one of four children, all sons, and was educated in the schools of Beloit, Wisconsin. His birth took place in Fillmore county, Minnesota, on the 24th of December, 1869. Naturally of a studious turn of mind, he made the most of his opportunities for the acquisition of an education, graduating at Beloit college, Beloit, Wisconsin, in 1893. He then entered the Lutheran Seminary in Chicago, and was graduated in that institution of learning in the class of 1896, the degree of Bachelor of Divinity being conferred upon him. He immediately entered upon his career as a teacher, and from the first has met with gratifying success. His methods are broad and liberal, and he has the rare and happy faculty of being able to impart instruction in a clear and pleasing manner. With his pupils he is deservedly popular, and his ready sympathy and helpfulness is deeply appreciated by them. At present he is teaching

classes in Greek and English, though his duties are not thus limited, but have a comprehensive grasp of the work being performed in the school. Young, active and ambitious, he is pressing forward to greater triumphs, which he undoubtedly will win.

The marriage of Professor Solberg and Miss Anne Louise Jacobson, a lady of excellent education and cultured tastes, was solemnized in Clinton, Wisconsin, in 1896. They have one child, a little daughter, whom they have named Helen Eunice.

GEORGE A. SCHMID.

Standing in the front ranks of LaSalle county's successful business men is George A. Schmid, of Streator. By well-directed energy and strict adherence to well-established financial methods he has won an enviable reputation for acumen and ability, while at the same time he bears an unimpeachable name in regard to integrity and square dealing.

The birth of Mr. Schmid took place near Beyreuth, Bavaria, Germany, August 23, 1856. His parents were John and Eva M. (Insbruker) Schmid, who passed their entire lives in the kingdom of Bavaria. The father visited America, and was very favorably impressed with the people and country, but circumstances prevented his settling here, as he frequently remarked that he would like to do, and his liking for America and her institutions was necessarily an influential factor in the decision of our subject a few years later.

In the common and high schools of his native land George A. Schmid obtained an excellent education, and when a youth of fifteen he commenced serving an apprenticeship to the cabinet and carpenter's trades. Before he had quite finished the three years of his engagement his father purchased his time of his employer, and not long afterward the young man sailed for America. Arriving in New York city, he remained there for a year, working as a carpenter, and then went to a small town in Pennsylvania, where he found employment. Subsequently he was given a position in the carpenter's department of the car construction shops at Irwin, Pennsylvania, and in 1879 he came to Streator, where he worked for the Chicago, Pekin & Southwestern Railroad in their car-repairing shops.

For three years Mr. Schmid worked for the firm of Sipe & Miller, contractors and builders of this place, at the end of that time buying an interest in the business. He continued with his old associates as a partner until 1894, when he became the sole proprietor, buying out the others' interest. He deals in lumber, lime and cement, and carries on a large and finely equipped planing-mill and sash, door and blind factory. A specialty is made

of material for the fine interior work of stores, banks and churches; and all kinds of moldings and finished lumber is furnished the trade. Many of the splendid churches and public buildings, as well as some of the best residences of Streator and neighboring towns, have been constructed under the contract of Mr. Schmid, who employs from thirty to forty skilled workmen to carry out his plans. Of this number twenty-three are on his pay rolls winter and summer, the whole year round, and frequently in the busy season this force is strongly augmented. It might be mentioned that Mr. Schmid built St. Anthony's Catholic church in Streator, and completed the interior work as well as the rest of the structure, and the substantial church at Budd, Livingston county; St. Mary's church at Pontiac, Illinois; St. Thomas' church at Philo; St. Mary's church at El Paso, this state; and convents and sisters' homes at Eagle and Campus, Illinois, and the Spaulding Lyceum at Streator.

From its inception until the present time Mr. Schmid has been actively connected with the Streator German Building & Loan Association, and is now its vice president. Fraternally he is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and belongs to the Catholic Order of Foresters. He has served the city as alderman for four years.

In 1882 Mr. Schmid and Miss Lucy C. Wachter, a native of Illinois, were united in marriage. They have become the parents of three daughters, —Theresa, Lucy and Eva,—all now attending school. The family belong to St. Anthony's Catholic church, and are respected and held in high regard by a large circle of acquaintances.

GAYLORD J. STATES.

On section 28, Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is found the pleasant home and farm of Gaylord States, one of the up-to-date farmers of the county.

Mr. States is a native of the Buckeye state, having been born in Fairfield county, Ohio, February 26, 1855. His grandfather and father, Abraham and Emanuel States, respectively, were Pennsylvanians, the latter born May 6, 1823. At an early date the States family moved to Ohio, where they lived until 1858, and it was in that state that Emanuel States was first married. His wife, whose maiden name was Elenora Lysinger, was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, September 9, 1828, a daughter of Joseph Lysinger, who was of German descent. This union was blessed in the birth of twelve children, of whom the following are still living: Amanda, wife of C. E. Spencer; George and William, twins, of Greene county, Iowa; Rebecca C. Harris, of Dallas county, Iowa; Gaylord J.; John N., of Grundy county, Illi-

nois; Charles D., of Greene county, Iowa; Frank E., on the homestead; and Cora, wife of James Parr, of Greene county, Iowa. Those deceased are Angeline, Theodore and one who died in infancy. The mother of this family died April 9, 1876. She was for many years, and up to the time of her death, a devoted member of the Baptist church. For his second wife the father married Mrs. Eliza Coats, of Lewis county, New York, who died August 8, 1897.

Mr. States passed away March 9, 1899. Politically he was in early life a Whig, and later identified himself with the Republican party, of which he was a supporter the rest of his life. He was a great admirer of General Fremont, and voted for him for president.

In 1861, when Gaylord J. States, the direct subject of this sketch, was six years old, his parents moved from Ohio to Illinois and settled on a farm in LaSalle county, where they lived one year, then removing to Grundy county, Illinois, remaining there until 1865, when they located on the old home farm, section 33, Miller township; here he was reared and educated, his educational advantages being limited to the public schools. He has always given his attention to agricultural pursuits, and has been fairly prosperous in his operations. His present farm, comprising one hundred and sixty acres of choice land, well improved, and under a high state of cultivation, he has owned and occupied since 1880.

August 12, 1879, Mr. States married Miss Emma F. Long, daughter of Lewis Long, of Miller township, LaSalle county. She was born and educated in this county. Mr. and Mrs. States are the parents of two daughters, Maude E. and Lena, aged respectively eighteen and fifteen years.

Like his father, Mr. States is a stanch Republican. He has served four terms on the school board, is interested in all that contributes to the general welfare of his community, and is regarded as one of its substantial citizens. Naturally of a genial, social nature, he is a favorite with his large circle of friends, and his accomplishments as a musician, in playing both the piano and violin, add in no small measure to his popularity. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen.

A. R. VAN SKIVER.

A progressive, public-spirited citizen of Streator is he whose name heads this sketch. His influence, which is not slight, is always to be found upon the side of good government, the enforcement of the law, progress and improvement along all lines, better educational facilities and high-class teachers for the rising generation, and everything which will be of permanent benefit to the public of this community.

A native of Preble county, Ohio, Mr. Van Skiver was born in the vicinity of the town of Camden, September 20, 1856, his parents being Joseph G. and Rebecca B. Van Skiver. After receiving a liberal education in the public schools, the young man engaged in teaching, and enjoyed the dignity of conducting a school before he was twenty years of age. Feeling the need of a better education in the higher branches, he pursued a scientific course of study in the National Normal University, at Lebanon, Ohio, being graduated in that well-known institution in 1879. He continued to devote his time and energy to teaching and self-improvement until 1884, when he came to Streator. Here he purchased a half interest in the Free Press, becoming a member of the firm of Van Skiver & Fornof. His partner, J. W. Fornof, is the present postmaster of Streator, and thus the major share of the business of managing the paper falls upon our subject.

The Free Press is a wide-awake, representative journal, devoted to the interests of the citizens of Streator and locality. It aims to give a clear, concise account of the events which are occupying the attention of the busy world, and at the same time gives items of especial interest to the people of this section. It is Republican in political creed, and is a fearless champion of the right. The well-grounded opinions of its editors are frequently reflected upon its pages, and without doubt the paper is growing in popularity constantly.

Mr. Van Skiver has a very pleasant and attractive home, which is presided over by the lady whom he made his wife in 1881. She was then Miss Fannie Beall, a daughter of F. A. Beall, of Preble county, Ohio.

RUFFIN D. FLETCHER.

Ruffin Drew Fletcher, local superintendent of the Chicago, Wilmington & Vermilion Coal Company, Streator, Illinois, has resided in this city and been identified with this company for a number of years and is well known and highly respected.

Mr. Fletcher is a native of Montgomery county, Tennessee, born December 2, 1840, and is a son of John H. and Alice (Bennyworth) Fletcher, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of England. Mrs. Fletcher came to the United States with her parents when she was a girl of thirteen years, and in Illinois, in 1838, she and Mr. Fletcher were married, he having come to this state when a young man and located in Greene county. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Tennessee, where they remained until 1851, that year coming back to Illinois and again settling in Greene county. From there he moved to Macoupin county, Illinois, in 1855, where he died

in 1878. His widow survives him and still makes her home in Nilwood, Illinois. Her father was Samuel Bennyworth.

Mr. Fletcher's paternal grandfather was John Fletcher. He was a native of North Carolina, of which state the Fletchers were early settlers. The family, it is supposed, came to this country from Scotland.

R. D. Fletcher, the immediate subject of this review, spent the first twelve years of his life in Tennessee, and accompanied his parents on their return to Illinois, as above stated. He attended the district schools in Greene and Macoupin counties and later was a student in a seminary at Greenfield, Illinois. In 1862 he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and rendered faithful service for three years, until the close of the war. He was a participant in a number of engagements. A portion of the time he was on detached service in the quartermaster's and commissary departments, with Captain Langdon, who was stationed a part of the time at Cairo, Illinois.

After receiving an honorable discharge, in June, 1865, he returned to his home in Macoupin county, Illinois, and in 1869 began railroading on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, with which he was connected for seven years. At the end of that time he accepted a position with the Chicago, Wilmington & Vermilion Coal Company, first as shipping clerk, in which capacity he served for ten years. In 1889 he was promoted to the position he now fills, that of local superintendent. This year is his twenty-sixth in the service of the company.

In January, 1873, Mr. Fletcher married Miss Rachel S. Proctor, of Mason City, Illinois, daughter of Richard and Rachel (Harris) Proctor. To them have been born a son and a daughter. The son, Ralph Proctor Fletcher, is deceased. The daughter, Edna May, is at home.

Mr. Fletcher has always been a stanch Republican and taken a deep interest in the general growth and good of the town in which he lives. For thirteen years he was a member of the school board. He is prominently identified with the Masonic order, maintaining membership in Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. & A. M.; Streator Chapter, No. 168, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T.

EDWARD G. LOEKLE.

Success rarely comes to the undeserving, and when, as in the case of Edward G. Loekle, prosperity and high standing in a community have been achieved, it is always interesting and profitable to trace the successive steps taken toward this desirable goal. During the almost half a century of his

residence in Peru, LaSalle county, the subject of this article has been closely associated with the commercial interests of the place, and has performed his share of the labors which devolve upon every patriotic citizen.

The ancestors of E. G. Loekle were natives of Germany, and his parents, Heinrich and Louise Loekle, lived and died in the province of Wurtemberg. They were honest, industrious people, and reared their children in the faith of the Lutheran church, to which they belonged. The father, who at one time was a member of a militia company, was a saddler and harness-maker by trade. He died when about forty-two years of age, in 1835 or 1836, and his widow survived him several years. Five sons and four daughters were born to them, and the seven who are yet living are as follows: Charley, of New York city; Paulina, wife of Henry Hartmann, of Lebanon, Pennsylvania; Edward G.; Emelia, wife of Lawrence Kronawitter, of Chicago; Henry, of Philadelphia; Ernest, of New York, and Ferdinand, of Stuttgart, Germany.

Edward G. Loekle was born in the city of Ludwigsburg, Wurtemberg, Germany, June 6, 1828. Until he was fourteen years of age he was a pupil in the common schools of his native land, after which he learned the butcher's trade and worked at that for several years. Being an ambitious young man, he decided that he would try his fortunes in the United States, and on the 1st of May, 1849, he arrived in New York city. Very wisely he left the crowded metropolis at once, and going to Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, he worked at his trade for two weeks, and then took a position upon a farm, where he gradually mastered the English language and customs. Learning that the west was a more promising place for enterprising men, he came to Illinois, and May 1, 1850, he had his first view of Peru. He has since made his home here, and after the first year, when he worked at his trade for wages, he has been engaged in business for himself. Opening a market, he conducted it successfully for about forty years, but has been retired for the last seven years. Since the Peru State Bank was organized he has been the vice-president of the institution, which is now in a most flourishing condition. He has used his franchise in favor of the Democratic party.

The marriage of Mr. Loekle and Miss Catherine Mather, a daughter of Jacob and Kunigundy Mather, was celebrated September 10, 1851. Twelve children came to bless their home, namely: Edward, Henry, Charley, Bertha, Louise, Paulina, Emma, Frederick, Anna, Carrie, Otto and Minnie. Edward died in infancy and Bertha when fourteen years of age. Henry, who married Emma Sperber, and had one child, Eduard, died when in his thirty-third year. Charley married Carrie Wolfer, and has three children living—Richard, Florence and Frank. Paulina is the widow of Henry Peters, and

is the mother of three children,—Willie, Tillie and Edward. Emma wedded Charley Danz, and has a son and daughter, Harry and Viola. Carrie is the widow of Charles Birkenbeuel, by whom she had two children,—Reuben and Clarence. Minnie is the wife of John E. Seepe and is the mother of a son, named Walter. The other children of our subject are unmarried. Otto is the assistant cashier of the Peru State Bank, and is a young man of ability and promise. The parents are members of the German Evangelical church. Their pleasant home at the corner of Putnam and Seventh streets has been occupied by them for almost forty years, and many a happy family reunion has taken place within these sheltering walls. Now in the evening of life, Mr. and Mrs. Loekle, surrounded by their dear ones, may look back with few regrets, feeling that they have ever striven to do their whole duty toward God and man, and knowing that the love and sincere regard of all who know them is theirs without stint.

OTTO J. LOEKLE.

When a man is spoken of only in the highest terms by those who have known him during his entire life, the public may rest assured that he is perfectly trustworthy and deserving of respect, for no more just and competent judges could be found than those who have watched the development of the child into the man, and the gradual building of his character. When, therefore, the citizens of Peru, with one accord, praise the straightforward, manly course which the subject of this sketch has followed from his boyhood no greater tribute could be paid him.

Born in this town, October 9, 1870, in the house which still shelters him, Otto J. Loekle is a son of Edward G. and Katherine (Mather) Loekle, both of whom are natives of Germany. The father, one of the best and most favorably known citizens of Peru, was engaged in business here for forty years and has made his home in this place for almost half a century.

The excellent public schools of Peru afforded Otto J. Loekle the opportunity of obtaining a liberal education, and he was not slow to make the best of his advantages. Being graduated in 1888, he went to Chicago, where he further qualified himself for a commercial career, by taking a course in Bryant & Stratton's Business College. Returning home, he worked in his father's market for about three years, at the end of which time he became connected with the Peru State Bank. Entering upon his new duties on the first of January, 1892, he gradually worked his way upward from the humble position of office boy to that of assistant cashier, and is now acting in that responsible office. He is a young man of marked ability and his future is full of promise.

Otto J. Loehle

Educational affairs and everything affecting the public welfare to a greater or less degree are matters of deep interest to Mr. Loekle, who is a patriotic American citizen, endeavoring to do his whole duty to the state and community in which he lives. In 1893 he was elected as a member of the city school board and worked for three years in that body, and in 1898 he was elected to serve as a school trustee. In the spring of 1897 he was elected city clerk and re-elected in 1899, for a second term of two years; and in 1898 he was elected to the office of township clerk, an office he is now holding. In the spring of 1899 he was appointed deputy tax collector, under Louis Leittl, to attend to the local taxes for the year just ended. Thus it may be readily seen that Mr. Loekle's time and services are in great demand, and, had he not been of so genial and accommodating a disposition, he would have declined some of the numerous responsibilities thrust upon him. Formerly he was very active in the Democratic party, to which he continues loyal; but a press of other duties is at present keeping him out of politics. For some time he has been a member of the Liberty Fire Company and the Peru fire department.

In his social relations he is deservedly popular, and among the fraternities he is associated with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Royal Neighbors and the Mystic Workers of the World. He was reared in the faith of the German Evangelical church, and attends the services of the local congregation. December 2, 1899, Mr. Loekle married Miss Louise Neureuther, daughter of Charles and Louise Neureuther, of Peru, Illinois.

JOHN COLLINGS.

John Collings, a venerable citizen of Ottawa, has been one of her prominent business men for many decades. About eighty years ago his birth took place in the northern part of England, the date of the event being June 11, 1819. His parents were Thomas and Ann (Jobling) Collings, who had six sons and six daughters.

In early manhood John Collings determined to seek his fortune in America, and accordingly he crossed the Atlantic. His chief business in life has been that of a tailor. He came to Ottawa, where he opened a shop and actively engaged in business. A thorough master of his trade, he commanded the best custom of the town, and can lay claim to having made the wedding suits of many of the older merchants and citizens of this section of the county. He attended strictly to his business, and by uniform courtesy, punctuality and fidelity to his word and agreement, won the confidence and regard of his patrons. In the multiplicity of his private interests, however,

he never forgot the duties which rested upon him as a citizen of this great republic. He cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, and has ever since been a loyal Republican. At various times he has served as a member of the local school board, and has been a member of the common council. He is a deep student of politics and current events, and is an able speaker and writer on the topics of the times.

In 1854 Mr. Collings married Miss Mary Anne, daughter of James and Lucy (Cox) Fulton. Of the four children born to them, the only son, Henry, died at the age of six months, and Lillian Virginia, a beautiful young lady, died at the age of nineteen years. Two daughters survive, namely: Erminie Rose, wife of Albert Prisler, of Ottawa; and Frances M., who married Farley Swartz, and resides at No. 365 Winchester avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Prisley have three children, Milton, Myron and Ethel; and Mr. and Mrs. Swartz have a little daughter, Daisy.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

For nearly three-score years the Adams family, now represented in Marseilles, LaSalle county, by the subject of this article and his brothers, have been prominently connected with the manufacturing interests of northern Illinois, and have a reputation which is world-wide, as the products of their business plant have gone to all parts of the earth.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Samuel Adams, a native of Cayuga county, New York. The parents of John Q. were the Hon. Augustus and Lydia (Phelps) Adams, the latter a daughter of Joseph Phelps, of the Empire state. The father was born in Genoa, New York, May 10, 1806, and grew to manhood in his native state. In 1840 he removed with his family to Elgin, Illinois, where he speedily became a power in social, business and political circles. He occupied numerous responsible positions, was a member of the constitutional convention of the state in 1848, and served with honor in the house and senate. He was a warm personal friend of Abraham Lincoln, Judge David Davis and General John M. Palmer and many other famous and representative men. In 1857 he removed from Elgin to Sandwich, Illinois, where he organized the Sandwich Manufacturing Company, of which he was the president for many years. He possessed great mechanical ability and was the inventor of the celebrated Adams corn-sheller and other agricultural implements. In 1870 he became the president of the Marseilles Manufacturing Company, which was established here by his sons, and for twenty-two years he was connected with this enterprise, or until his death, in 1892. His wife, Lydia, born in Homer, Cortland

county, New York, died at her home in Sandwich, in 1867, when in her fifty-third year. She was the mother of eight children, seven of whom were sons, and all but one of the number survive.

The birth of J. Q. Adams occurred in Greenwood, Steuben county, New York, July 23, 1839, and his youth was spent in Elgin, Illinois, where he was educated in the public schools and academy. He then learned the machinist's trade in his father's shop, and had just fairly started upon his mechanical career when the great civil war came on. He took a very active part in the Lincoln campaign of 1860, being a member of the celebrated Wide Awake Club.

In September, 1861, Mr. Adams enlisted in Company G, Fifty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Colonel Wilson. After being encamped at Geneva, Illinois, and at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri, the regiment was placed on guard duty along the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad, and later stationed in Kentucky, at Smithland, where Colonel T. W. Sweeny took command of the regiment. Arriving at Fort Donelson just after the surrender, the regiment was sent north to Camp Douglas, Chicago, with prisoners. Afterward, joining General Grant's army, the regiment took part in the battle of Shiloh and there met with heavy loss, as one hundred and seventy men were killed or wounded of the four hundred and fifty participating in the engagement. Mr. Adams fought in the thickest of the fray both days of the dreadful conflict, and later was engaged in the siege of Corinth under General Halleck, and on October 3 and 4, 1863, in the second battle of Corinth under Rosecrans, in which battle the division with which he was connected lost one thousand and four out of less than three thousand men. General Hackelman, commanding the First Brigade, was killed, and General Oglesby, commanding the Second Brigade, was badly wounded.

In January, 1864, Mr. Adams veteranized. In April of the same year the regiment joined Sherman's army and took part in nearly all the most important battles of the Atlanta campaign, after which they went with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and later on his other great campaigns through the Carolinas, which included the burning of Columbia and the battle of Bentonville, ending with the capture of Raleigh and the march to Washington, where they took part in the grand review of the troops. He served with the rank of first lieutenant and regimental quartermaster during the last months of the war, and was discharged as such in July, 1865, when his services were no longer required.

Returning to the peaceful vocations of life, Mr. Adams joined his father and brothers, H. R. and O. R. Adams, in the Marseilles Manufacturing Company, and gradually advanced until he became president of the concern,

as he is to-day. In this finely equipped factory all kinds of corn-shellers, horse-power pumps, plows, windmills and various implements required in modern farming are manufactured in immense quantities, and sold and shipped to all parts of this and foreign countries. The brothers have persevered through many long years in their ambitious endeavor to build up an extensive and remunerative trade, and have succeeded beyond their most sanguine expectations. A large force of men are afforded employment, and in numerous ways the community reaps benefit from this thriving industry.

In December, 1865, John Q. Adams and Miss Helen A. Beardsley, of Carlton, Orleans county, New York, were united in marriage, at Sandwich, DeKalb county, Illinois. They have a very handsome home, situated upon the bluffs overlooking the town and surrounding country. Mr. Adams, it is needless to say, is now, as he has always been, a firm friend to the principles of the Republican party. He has not been desirous of holding public office, but has served as a member of the town board of trustees. Ever since 1856 he has been a member of the Congregational denomination, and for the past thirty years has been treasurer of the Marseilles church. His life has been conspicuous for integrity, honor and nobility of word and deed; he has been faithful in the discharge of his duty toward his country, his family and to society in general.

CAPTAIN JOHN L. McCORMICK.

Probably the death of no private citizen has called forth such universal and heartfelt expressions of genuine sorrow as were heard in Peru, Illinois, when the news was received that Captain McCormick had passed away. It was on June 25, 1893, when the earth was clothed with the verdure of springtime, a fitting season, for this noble life, which had battled with such courage with the world for eighty-five years, to lay down its burdens and begin the morning of a new life. He had resided in Peru for almost half a century, and was known and beloved far and wide for his many good qualities of mind and heart. Many from surrounding cities were present to pay their last tribute of respect, and his remains were followed to their last resting place by a procession of friends that extended a mile in length. The Rev. B. F. Underwood, of Chicago, conducted the brief, but impressive services, speaking eloquently and touchingly of the honesty and integrity of Captain McCormick, and the genial, kindly, charitable nature that won friends in all circumstances and in all classes.

Captain John L. McCormick was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, on New Year's day, 1808, and was a son of Joseph and Rebecca

(Quigley) McCormick. The family were originally from Ireland, the great-grandfather of our subject, Joseph McCormick, being a resident of county Antrim, near the famous "Giant's Causeway." After his death his widow with her family came to America, settling in Chester county, Pennsylvania, about the year 1760. John McCormick, the grandfather, was one of two brothers who came to this country with their mother; the brother went west and the grandfather settled in Pennsylvania, and from this source also are sprung the family of that name whose reapers have made their name familiar throughout the United States. John McCormick died in Pennsylvania, in 1842, after rounding out his century of life.

Joseph McCormick, the father, was also a Pennsylvanian, as was his wife. He was a farmer and raised his family of two sons and three daughters on his farm of eighty acres. He lived to be about seventy-five years old. None of his family are living. His wife was a daughter of John Quigley, a native of Lycoming county, but a German by descent. He was a farmer in his native state and an active, hard-working man. He had passed his eightieth year when he met an accidental death, being killed by a threshing machine.

Captain McCormick remained on his father's farm in his native state until he attained his majority. He was then appointed, by Governor Wolfe of that state, as foreman of the canal running between the mouth of the Juniata and Northumberland rivers. He held this position three years and then began buying and selling lumber, transporting it on rafts to New York and Port Deposit, Maryland. In 1836 he went to Pittsburg, where he continued in the same business, adding coal and ice to his stock. He remained in this enterprise until the fall of 1847, when he moved to Peru to engage in the ice business, having formed a partnership with William B. Quigley and Victor F. Wilson, the former having an office at Vicksburg and the latter at Natchez. They dealt extensively in ice, which was obtained from the Illinois river and the numerous sloughs in that vicinity. In 1854 Captain McCormick turned his attention to farming and stock-raising. He had, by his own unaided efforts and with no capital except a stout heart and willing hands, been steadily laying up a fortune, and was now the owner of over twelve hundred acres of choice land in the fertile valley of Illinois and it was a source of much pleasure to him during the remainder of his life to attend to its cultivation. He was a shrewd business man and a good manager, and in no place was his business ability better displayed than in the management of this large estate.

September 30, 1841, he was married to Miss Anna Jones, a native of Paupack, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Henry and Arabella (Newman) Jones. Her parents were natives of Dublin, Ireland, who came to this

country and settled in Paupack about the year 1820. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. McCormick, namely: Joseph Henry, who married Mrs. Jennie Arnold and has one son, Henry Joseph, who lives in Caledonia on a farm; William Quigley, who left college to take up arms for the Union, serving all through the war; he was promoted for bravery at the battle of Vicksburg, and died February 1, 1881, at the age of thirty-five years, eleven months and four days; John Lowry, Jr., who died November 15, 1891, aged forty-four years, one month and two days; Charles and Douglas who died in infancy; and twin daughters, Rebecca and Arabella, and the youngest child died in infancy. Miss Arabella, who is at home and has charge of her father's extensive business interests, manages the farms and other affairs of the estate with a clearness of perception and a sound judgment seldom displayed by a woman. Captain McCormick took an intelligent interest in politics and was active in furthering the interests of the Democratic party. He was elected mayor of Peru in 1855 and discharged the duties devolving upon him in an able and efficient manner. He was a warm personal friend of that eminent statesman, Stephen A. Douglas.

RINALDO M. GALLUP.

Rinaldo Martin Gallup, of Stavanger, Miller township, LaSalle county, was born in Rhode Island, January 26, 1838, and is the son of George S. and Betsey Fuller Gallup, his father being born in Connecticut and his mother in Rhode Island. His grandfather was Martin Gallup whose father came from England when he was a young man and settled in the state of Rhode Island. George S. Gallup married Miss Betsey Fuller, whose ancestors of that name are not unknown to Revolutionary fame. They had three children, whom they reared to adult years. The eldest, Rinaldo Martin, is the subject of this brief biography; Isadora Ruth, the wife of Z. Bourne, living in Hamilton county, Iowa; and William Spencer, residing in this township. Their mother died in her seventy-third year, and their father is still living, now in his eighty-fourth year,—both the parents thus reaching a good old age.

Rinaldo M. Gallup attended the public schools and in them received a good common education. He remained at home until his twenty-second year, when he purchased a farm and began to manage for himself. On November 1, 1860, he married Miss Ann Eliza Holley, of Salisbury, Connecticut, and five children were born to them,—John S., Nettie A., Nellie E., Nina B. and Bessie F. John, the eldest, has been twice married, Miss Cora Lewis becoming his first wife. She died six years after marriage, leaving a daughter, named May. He was afterward married to Mrs. Ade-

laide Ormsby, of Connecticut. Nettie married Eugene Barker, of Seneca, Illinois, and resides in Morris, this state.

Mr. Gallup is a progressive farmer, who believes in taking advantage of modern ideas to accomplish work in these modern times, and the result is seen in his successful business. Politically he is a supporter of the Republican party. He is social and genial by nature and has made many warm friends in this community, who appreciate the sterling worth of the man and the integrity and energy which have contributed to his success.

OWEN W. HUFF.

An honored old resident of Ottawa is Owen W. Huff, who, after a very active and enterprising business career, settled in this place many years ago and has since been retired. Though now in his eighty-fourth year, he is hale and hearty, and is in the complete possession of all of his faculties, bidding fair to enjoy life for many years to come. The subjoined sketch of his past will be of interest to his multitudes of friends, both in Ottawa and elsewhere.

His parents were James and Catherine (Hess) Huff, both of whom were natives of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania. The father of James was John Huff, who served under General Washington throughout the greater part of the Revolutionary war. He married Martha Burns and reared a large family. John Huff was a powerfully built man, six feet and six inches in height, and his mental characteristics were no less remarkable than was his physical strength. The Huffs originally came from Scotland, and have been in this country for many generations. The father of our subject's mother was Abraham Hess, a native of Germany, and his wife was a Miss Sarah Wright prior to their marriage. For several years after the birth of Owen W. Huff, January 29, 1816, his parents lived upon a farm near the village of Sunbury, Delaware county, Ohio. The father died there in 1830, and was survived by his wife, who attained the advanced age of ninety-one years.

Owen W. Huff's birthplace was in Luzerne, now Wyoming, county, Pennsylvania, but his first recollections are of Ohio, whither his parents had taken him in his infancy. He went to the district school and to one in Columbus, the state capital, then a mere village. His first regular employment was as a farm hand, his wages being four dollars a month and board, and later he was paid double that amount. Going to Portsmouth, Ohio, he spent some time there and made a reputation for reliability and trustworthiness that resulted in his appointment to superintend the construction of fifty-one miles of railroad between Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi. He

received seventy-five dollars a month and board while acting in this responsible position, and most of the time for months was on horseback, riding back and forth along the line of the road. When the railroad had been completed he returned to Delaware county, Ohio, and purchased fifty acres of land in the woods. This property he soon disposed of, at the rate of five dollars an acre. Then going to Cincinnati he entered the employ of his brother John, and while there he was offered a position in the state penitentiary at Columbus, Ohio. He accepted the place and remained there for twenty years, investing the amount which he saved from his salary in local real estate. Some property which he owned on Main street, near the depot, he sold later at a price three times as great as the purchase price. His next move was to come to Illinois, and, locating upon a farm of two hundred and sixteen acres in the vicinity of Elgin, Kane county, he cultivated the place for about two years. A favorable opportunity then presenting itself, he sold the farm, for which he had paid seven thousand dollars, and realized just three thousand dollars on the transaction. From 1858 to 1874 he was engaged in the wholesale liquor business in Ottawa, and since selling out in the last named year he has been retired, merely looking after his various investments.

For half a century Mr. Huff was cheered and assisted in all his undertakings by the presence of his devoted wife, who was a woman of rare traits of mind and character, and was respected and loved by all who knew her. Mrs. Huff bore the maiden name of Julia Winders, her father being William Winders, of Columbus, Ohio. She was born in West Virginia, and removed to the Buckeye state with her parents when she was quite young. Four children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Huff, namely: Charles E., now of Pollard, Oregon; Minnie H., wife of Henry Aronstine, of Anderson, Indiana; Eliza, who, with her husband, George Sherman, is deceased; and Alice, who died when in her twenty-second year. The loving wife and mother was summoned to her reward on the 16th of January, 1893, mourned by all who had ever known her.

I. N. BEEM.

One of the old and reliable business houses of Ottawa has, as a member of the firm, the subject of this article, I. N. Beem, who is of German descent, though his family has been located in the United States for several generations. His grandfather, Michael Beem, was a hero of the Revolutionary war, and the same spirit of devotion which he manifested toward his country in that crucial period of its history has animated his descendants. He married and reared to maturity eight sons and three daughters.

One of the sons, Jacob Beem, born in 1799, was the father of our sub-

ject. He was an early settler in Licking county, Ohio, and lived to attain the age of seventy-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Phoebe Rose, was a daughter of Philip Rose, and was a native of the Buckeye state. She survived her husband several years, dying likewise at the age of seventy-six years. They were the parents of ten children, of whom, Milton died in Oregon; Orrin, a soldier during the civil war, was accidentally killed at Marion, Ohio; his home was in Richmond, Ohio; Albert died at Macomb, Illinois; Jacob is a farmer of Richwood, Ohio; P. Andrew and Stephen G. were soldiers in the Union army in the war of the Rebellion; both died in the service; Arminta Frances is the wife of Adam Marrow, of Union county, Ohio; and Lewis and Benjamin F. are residents of Richwood, Ohio.

I. N. Beem was born in Licking county, Ohio, August 7, 1832. He received a liberal education for that day in the schools of the neighborhood and Columbus, Ohio; learned the tailor's trade of his uncle, Philip Rose, and came to Illinois in 1850, settling at Magnolia. He engaged in the merchant tailoring business. He entered a quarter section of land from the government, near Wenona, and moved on and improved it. He remained at that town for three and a half years, then going to Henry, where he gave his time and attention to the grocery business for several years. He went to Columbus, Ohio, and engaged in the merchant tailoring business until 1866, when he went to Arkansas, and raised a crop of cotton. In 1867 he came to Ottawa, and in 1871 became a member of the firm with which he has continued ever since. This well known business house, which was established in 1867 under the style of Fiske, Strickland & Wing, has gone by its present title, Fiske & Beem, for the past twenty-eight years. Prosperity has smiled upon the efforts of this firm to give ample satisfaction to their customers, and their straightforward, just methods of transacting business merit the esteem which they enjoy.

On the 31st of January, 1856, Mr. Beem married Miss Mary Clarkson, a daughter of William and Sarah (Alexander) Clarkson, of Putnam county, Illinois. Three children bless the marriage of our subject and wife, namely: William Orrin, who is carrying on a fruit farm at West Plains, Howell county, Missouri; Frances, who became the wife of Charles Bradford, and died, leaving one child, Clarkson Beem; and Fred Clarkson, of Kansas City, Missouri. William O., the elder son of Mr. Beem, married Miss Bronson and has three children, Fanny May, Belle and William. Mrs. Mary C. Beem, who was a member of the Episcopal church, died in 1874. Three years later Mr. Beem was united in marriage with Miss Vilda Prescott, whose death occurred in 1880, one child, Vilda, being left to mourn her mother's loss. The lady who now bears the name of our subject, to whom she was married in 1882, was formerly Miss Annie M. Connell, of Columbus, Ohio.

The handsome residence of the Beem family is located at No. 609 Illinois avenue. Socially Mr. Beem stands high in the Masonic order, being connected with Occidental Lodge, No. 40. In his political views he is an uncompromising Republican, and at present is serving in the capacity of alderman of Ottawa.

F. L. Fiske, the senior member of the firm of Fiske & Beem, has been an honored citizen of Ottawa for the long period of forty-three years, and has been prominently associated with its progress. He was born in Norwich, Connecticut, in 1840, and thus has passed the best years of his life here. He is independent in politics, using his ballot without regard to party, solely with reference to the principal issues and nominees in question. He stands well in various social orders of this place, and is justly accounted one of the most popular of our pioneer citizens.

THOMAS F. NOON.

Thomas F. Noon was born in Peru, Illinois, March 7, 1857, and is a son of Michael and Winifred (Meathe) Noon, who were natives of county Mayo, Ireland. The father was born in 1825, and the mother in 1829, and after their marriage they sailed to the United States, in 1852. Coming to Peru, they made a permanent settlement here, and were thenceforth numbered among the enterprising citizens of this place. The father died in October, 1886, and the mother is still living in her Peru home. In 1861, during the civil war, Mr. Noon's father enlisted as a private in Company H, Fifty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was promoted to the rank of corporal. His term of enlistment expired February 7, 1865, and on the 21st of the following month he veteranized, becoming a member of Company B, Fifth United States Regulars, which was attached to the Third Army Corps, and was under the command of General Hancock. He received an honorable discharge at the end of one year, March 21, 1866, and returned home. Faithful and trustworthy in the performance of his duties, he won the praise and commendation of his superiors and the respect of his comrades in the ranks.

Thomas F. Noon is one of the five children born to his parents, the others being Ann, John E., Eliza and William Harry. Mr. Noon was educated in the schools of Peru, and when fourteen years of age he entered upon his business career. For ten years he was connected with the drug business, and in the meantime also served as assistant postmaster of Peru for nine years, and meanwhile he also served as city and town clerk for five years. In March, 1881, he entered the employ of the Illinois Zinc Company, as a

Thos. F. Noon

clerk, and was gradually promoted from time to time. In May, 1898, upon the death of Archibald Mears, the general manager of the company, Mr. Noon was called to succeed him, and he has since held this position, rendering most acceptable service in the interests of the company. Prior to becoming general manager, Mr. Noon had served in various capacities, including clerk, pay-master and cashier, and had gained a general knowledge of the business, and thus became well qualified to fill his present responsible position.

The cause of education finds a sincere friend in Mr. Noon, who for twelve years served as a member of the Peru school board, and is now acting as its president. Politically he is a Republican, and fraternally a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and other societies. Following in the faith of his parents, he is a Catholic. In 1882, he married Miss Mary H. Xelowski, and five children bless their union, namely, Mary Henrietta, Genevieve Lucy, Helen Louise, Thomas Henry and Thaddeus Roderick.

A. J. DAUGHERTY.

A. J. Daugherty, of Streator, is the proprietor of the Cloverdale Dairy and a representative business man of this part of the state. He is widely and favorably known throughout the surrounding country, having been born in this county July 22, 1862, and is the eldest son of John and Sarah Ann (Barnhart) Daugherty. His grandparents, Thomas and Mary Daugherty, were both natives of the state of Kentucky and in that state his father also opened his eyes to the light of day. John Daugherty moved to this state and later to Missouri, in 1874, where he still lives. He was a stanch Democrat and contributed his influence to the success of the party. He was the father of eight children: A. J., the subject of this sketch; Harlan, a resident of Texas county, Missouri; Amos, of Arkansas; Melvin, of Texas county, Missouri; Wallace, of Streator, this state; Jacob, also of Streator; Thomas and John, of Texas county, Missouri.

Mr. Daugherty lived in this, his native county, until he was eight years old, when his parents removed to the state of Missouri, locating in Texas county, where he remained until he was nineteen and where he received his education. He then returned to the home of his early boyhood and located on the farm now occupied by him, the Cloverdale Dairy. This dairy was established by George W. Graham many years previously and the farm is one of the finest in this part of the state. It would be difficult to find a farm better adapted to the purpose for which it is used than is this one, the broad, rich meadow land being crossed by streams of the purest water,

furnishing an abundant supply for the large herd of cattle who graze there. The large, roomy barn is kept in scrupulous order, while a silo of three hundred and seventy tons' capacity furnishes the necessary green food which is one of the essential requirements to keep a herd in the best condition through the winter months. Seventy-five head of fine Holstein cattle—cows that would be a delight to the eyes of a lover of good stock, as they are a source of pride and profit to their owner—furnish the milk that has made this dairy one of the most successful and reputable in the county. Mr. Daugherty takes a pardonable pride in his dairy and the quality of milk placed on the market; and that his efforts in this direction are appreciated by the public is shown by his constantly increasing trade, indeed it has been found impossible to meet the demand made upon him.

February 25, 1896, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Amelia Turner, a daughter of Mark and Rosanna (Robinson) Turner, of Streator, this state. Mrs. Daugherty was born in Broadwood, Grundy county, but moved to Streator with her parents at an early age and was there educated and reared to a lovable womanhood. Two bright children have been added to their home,—Hazel and Byron. Mr. Daugherty is a prominent member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Masonic lodges of Ottawa, and is a strong Republican, taking an active part in the workings of his party, although he has never been an aspirant for political honors.

DR. E. H. KINGERY.

E. H. Kingery, veterinary surgeon, Mendota, Illinois, was born in Center county, Pennsylvania, February 11, 1837, a son of Dr. Daniel and Susanna (Hoover) Kingery, natives of that state, he being one of their twelve children. Of that large family, nine sons and three daughters, nine are still living, namely: John, Daniel, Samuel, Ephraim H., Susanna (widow of David Goode), Mary (wife of Abe Eshelman, of Arkansas), David, Andrew and George. In early life the father was a farmer. Later he took up the medical profession, came west to Illinois in 1847 and located in Ogle county, and there practiced medicine for a period of thirty-five years. He died in Ogle county, at the age of sixty-nine years. His widow died in 1895, at the age of eighty-three years. Both were buried at Polo, this state. They were originally identified with the Evangelical church, but after coming west united with the United Brethren.

The Kingery family is of German origin and the name was formerly Gingerich. John Kingery, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Pennsylvania and a soldier in the Revolutionary war. Both

he and his wife lived to a ripe old age, he being eighty at the time of death, she ninety-two. They were the parents of six sons and five daughters. The Hoovers likewise were of German origin and were among the early settlers of the Keystone state. Michael Hoover, our subject's maternal grandfather, was a native of Pennsylvania, by occupation was a farmer, and his age at death was the same as that of Grandfather Kingery,—eighty years. In the Hoover family were ten children.

Dr. E. H. Kingery was ten years old when he came with his parents to Illinois, and he was reared in Ogle county, receiving his early education in its district schools. Later he was a student at Mount Morris Academy and still later at the Western Iowa College. For ten or twelve years he followed the milling business and was thus occupied at the time the civil war broke out. In answer to a call for volunteers he left the mill and entered the Union ranks, becoming a member of Company C, One Hundred and Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the fortunes of which he shared two years, being first lieutenant and a part of the time commanding the company. He was in the battles of Richmond, Kentucky; Franklin, Tennessee; Chickamauga; Franklin, again; Nashville, Tennessee; and Duck River, besides many skirmishes.

At the close of the war Mr. Kingery gave his attention to the study of veterinary surgery, under Professor Navin, of Cincinnati, and began practicing in Wabash county, Illinois, in 1867. Since then he has devoted the whole of his time and attention to the practice of his profession. In the fall of 1867 he returned to Ogle county, remained there till 1878, and then located in Paw Paw, Illinois. Afterward he practiced in Arlington and Lamoille, both in this state, and from the latter place moved in 1885 to his present location in Mendota.

March 28, 1858, Dr. Kingery married Miss Mary E. Hammaker, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Longenecker) Hammaker, their marriage being consummated at Mount Carmel, Illinois. The fruits of their union are nine children, five sons and four daughters, whose names in order of birth are as follows: Levi, Elizabeth, Jennie, Samuel, Laura, Minnie, Frank, Le Roy and Charles. Levi married Miss Ella VanLaw and they have one child, VanLaw. They reside in Parker, South Dakota, where he has the position of foreman in the Northwestern Elevator Company. Lizzie died at the age of twenty-five years, the wife of Charles Sturdevant. Jennie married Fremont Piedlow, of Rochelle, Illinois, and they have four children,—Pearl, Wilbur, Minnie and Mabel. Samuel married Miss C. Pierson, of Creston, Iowa, and they have one child, Hazel. Samuel is a graduate of the Chicago Veterinary College, with the class of 1888, and is now assistant state veterinary of Iowa. Laura married Daniel Cushing, of Prophetstown, Illi-

nois, and they have three children. The other members of the family are at home with their parents. Mrs. Kingery is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Fraternally Dr. Kingery is identified with Mendota Lodge, No. 76, A. F. & A. M.; Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is venerable counsel; and Hill's Post, G. A. R., of Lamoille. Politically he has always affiliated with the Republican party, and has served in various local official capacities. He was tax collector of Wysox township, Carroll county; deputy sheriff in Wabash county; and school trustee and school director several times.

ALONZO F. WALBRIDGE.

For more than three-score years the Walbridge family has been represented in LaSalle county by honorable, industrious, patriotic citizens bearing the name. Actively concerned in the founding of the county, true to all the obligations of citizenship, and sincere and upright in all their dealings with their fellow men, none is more worthy of a prominent place in the annals of this region.

In 1685 three brothers—Henry, William and Stephen Walbridge—left their old home in Dorsetshire, England, and came to America, casting in their lot with the hardy pioneers of the New World. Henry Walbridge, the ancestor of our subject, lived in Dedham, Massachusetts, and in Preston and Norwich, Connecticut. On Christmas day, 1688, he married Miss Anna Ames, and one of their descendants was Asa, the grandfather of our subject. The parents of the latter were Alonzo and Mary (Keys) Walbridge, the father born in St. Lawrence county, New York, March 9, 1810, and the mother born September 21, 1802, in Hiram township, Vermont. She was a daughter of Parly Hughs and Esther, nee Ormsby, who were united in marriage November 19, 1778, by the Rev. Mr. Russell.

When he was seventeen years of age our subject's father removed from Bennington, Vermont, to St. Lawrence county, New York, and in 1835 came to Illinois. Two years later he became a permanent resident of LaSalle county, the remainder of his life being spent upon his farm in Rutland township. There he located upon raw prairie land, which he broke and improved, and by arduous labor converted into a fertile, productive homestead, one of the best in that section. His first humble home was a very modest one, but as time passed it was supplanted by a commodious dwelling, and other substantial farm buildings were erected on the place. There being few settlers on the prairie and no fences, cattle ranged at will over the broad expanse, and Mr. Walbridge kept large herds at small expense or trouble.

His busy and useful life was brought to a close February 26, 1875. His wife, who died several years later, November 9, 1890, was the mother of seven children, four of the number by her marriage to Mr. Keys. The others were named respectively Alonzo F., Ora D., and Edward K., and the last mentioned is now a resident of Pittsburg, Kansas.

Alonzo F. Walbridge was born on the family homestead in Rutland township, this county, February 26, 1839. He became thoroughly familiar with the routine work of agriculture when a mere boy, and continued to assist his father at home until his marriage in his twentieth year. Even then he did not leave his birthplace, but as long as he was actively engaged in farming he cultivated the same property. After his father's death, it came into his possession by heritage and purchase, and for years it has been considered one of the most desirable farms in the county. It comprises four hundred and fifty acres of arable, well improved land, and good farm buildings stand on the premises.

In 1890 Mr. Walbridge removed with his family to Marseilles, where he occupies a pleasant residence on West Bluff street. He was married on the 7th of February, 1858, to Miss Delilah Mick, the second daughter of Jesse and Martha (Williams) Mick, and for over forty years they have happily pursued the journey of life together. Mrs. Walbridge was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and when quite young removed with her parents to Jefferson county, New York, and subsequently came to this county in 1855. Two daughters bless the union of our subject and wife, namely: Relief E., wife of Elihu Baxter, a farmer; and Adella D., who married William H. Millikin, likewise a tiller of the soil.

Politically Mr. Walbridge is a stanch "sixteen-to-one" Democrat, but has never found time to interfere in public affairs, even had he desired to do so. He has attended strictly to his own concerns and to the welfare of his immediate community, and is deserving of the high esteem in which he is held by all.

GEORGE W. GIBSON.

For three-score years George W. Gibson has made his home in LaSalle county, having come here from Ohio with his parents in 1838, and he is not only familiar with the history of the county, but has also contributed his part toward its growth and development.

Mr. Gibson was born in Marysville, Kentucky, March 22, 1826, and along the agnatic line traces his origin to Scotland. His grandfather, Robert Yates Gibson, was a Scotch army officer, and when a young man emigrated to this country and settled in Pennsylvania. In Cumberland, Pennsylvania,

John Gibson, the father of George W., was born and reared. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He married Elizabeth C. Yates, like himself a native of Pennsylvania and a descendant of Scotch ancestry. Some time after their marriage they removed to Marysville, Kentucky, where they remained for two years, going thence to Licking county, Ohio, and in 1838 coming to Illinois and establishing their home in LaSalle county, where the father purchased a farm and where he and his good wife passed the rest of their lives and died, her age at death being seventy-five years, while he attained the venerable age of eighty-six. She was for many years, and up to the time of her death, a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. This worthy couple reared six children, as follows: Martha, wife of C. McKinley, is deceased; Maria is the widow of James Trenary; William, who died in Eldorado, Kansas, was a veteran of both the Mexican and civil wars, being colonel of the Fourth Illinois Infantry; George W., whose name graces this sketch, is also a veteran of the Mexican war; J. M. was likewise a soldier in the Mexican war; and Theodore, also a veteran of the Mexican and civil wars, was major of the Sixty-fourth Illinois Infantry, and has for years been a resident of Ottawa, Illinois.

George W. Gibson was a lad of eleven years when his parents first sought the Illinois prairies, and was reared in the vicinity of Ottawa, attending the Ottawa schools. In 1849, in company with his brother Theodore, he started westward to seek the gold fields of California; they made the trip with ox-team and were six months on the way. En route they passed large herds of buffalo and were often in terror on account of the bands of Indians along the trail. For three years he remained in the west, engaged in mining, returning to Chicago at the end of that time and thence to his home in LaSalle county. The return trip was made by way of the Isthmus of Panama and New York city. Aside from this western mining experience, Mr. Gibson's life has been quietly devoted to agricultural pursuits. Although now seventy-three years of age, he is still active and vigorous, both physically and mentally.

Mr. Gibson was married first in 1856, to Miss Cynthia Robinson, and to them were born two children, Lewis and Clara. Lewis married Miss Flora Ditch, and they have two children, George P. and Mabel. Mrs. Cynthia Gibson died in 1861, and for his second wife Mr. Gibson married Miss Rachel Green. There were born of this marriage two children—John and Alta, who became the wife of William Miller, of Pennsylvania, and who has one child, Gertie. Mrs. Rachel Gibson died in 1883, and in 1889 Mr. Gibson was united in marriage to Mrs. Mary Ann Poole, his present companion. She was the widow of Joseph Poole, who was a native of England, and she is the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters.

While he has never been a politician in any sense of the word, Mr. Gibson has always in local affairs given his support to the men best suited for office, while in national affairs he has voted the Democratic ticket.

DAVID M. VOSBURGH, M. D.

David Martin Vosburgh, M. D., is among the oldest and widely known citizens of Earlville, LaSalle county, and occupies a conspicuous place in the county, having been a practicing physician here for nearly half a century. He is a native of Evansburg, Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and was born July 28, 1826, his parents being Dr. David J. and Mary (Richards) Vosburgh. David Martin Vosburgh, the grandfather, was a descendant of the Hollander emigrants who settled in New York, of which state he was a native. The name was of Holland-Dutch origin. David Martin and two of his brothers were soldiers of the Revolution and participated in the battle of Bunker Hill, where both brothers gave their lives in the cause of American independence.

Dr. David J. Vosburgh was born in Washington county, New York, August 4, 1792, and was one of seven sons, of whom five became practicing physicians. He fought in the war of 1812, where he served as an assistant surgeon under Chief Surgeon Payne, who was afterward given a place on the staff of professors in the Albany (New York) Medical College, and General Pitcher, the noted fighter. Later he was sent out with Colonel (afterward General) Taylor to quell the Indians on the frontier. This expedition went by way of Fort Dearborn (Chicago) to Lake George, Wisconsin. With this company was Captain Jefferson Davis, who afterward was secretary of war and figured so prominently as the president of the southern Confederacy. Previous to enlisting in this war he had graduated at the University of New York city, and after returning he continued his studies, soon afterward locating in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, where he began the regular practice of medicine. Here it was that he became acquainted with Miss Mary Richards, and the friendship soon ripened into a love which culminated in their betrothal and marriage. They were the happy parents of three sons: John Jay, a farmer of Iconium, Iowa; Hiram Alonzo, a resident of Chicago; and David Martin, our subject. The mother died about 1827, and the father was again bound in matrimony, his second wife being Doris Wright, who bore him several children, five of whom reached adult years, namely: Sabrena S., wife of Joseph P. Howe; Horatio L.; Doris, wife of George Howe; and Edward and Eliza, twins, the latter becoming the wife of Amos Gilliland. Early in the '30s Dr. David J. Vos-

burgh moved from Evansburg to Penn Line, Pennsylvania, where he was a most skillful and successful practitioner until ill health compelled him to retire from practice, when he was about fifty-five years of age. His wife was called to her long rest in 1865, when in her sixty-eighth year, and soon after, in 1868, he went west and made his home with his son, John Jay, in Iowa. Here he quietly passed into his long, dreamless sleep on May 2, 1875, after a long life of usefulness and kindness. He was a Democrat in his politics and while a resident of Penn Line was given the unanimous vote of the convention as a nominee for congress. This was equivalent to an election, but the honor was declined by the Doctor, who felt that his poor health would not permit him to serve his constituents in the manner he thought incumbent upon a congressman. He was honest and sincere in all his actions and was respected and loved by all who knew him.

Dr. David M. Vosburgh lived the greater part of his early life in Penn Line, Pennsylvania, and received his education in Kingsville Academy, Ashtabula county, Ohio. His youthful ambition was to become a physician and follow in the footsteps of his father, and his first step in this direction was to enter his father's office to obtain the rudiments of the knowledge necessary to a successful practice of that science. Later he entered the office of Dr. C. E. Cleveland of Kingsville, Ohio, who had been a former pupil of the elder Vosburgh. Here he studied three years, obtaining valuable experience during the third year in the hospital of Ashtabula county. He then entered the University of Pennsylvania, at which he graduated in 1850. For two years he practiced at Custordville, Pennsylvania, and February 12, 1853, he came to Earlville, Illinois, where he has practiced continuously since. When he located here but two other doctors, Wylie and Badgly, were practicing here, and he is the only one of the trio remaining. He has worked up a large and lucrative practice, having brought many of his patrons into the world and attended them and their families in all their sickness. He has attended over five thousand births, and three of these were triplets. He is one of the most eminent and skillful physicians in the county, and has the confidence and affection of a large circle, who appreciate his sterling worth.

He was married June 21, 1853, to Mary M. Hubbell, who died November 2, 1854. He then chose as his helpmeet Miss Phoebe B. Breese, to whom he was joined in wedlock October 14, 1855, and who died October 18, 1898, after suffering four years from paralysis, during which time she was speechless and helpless. Her children were Mary E., wife of George H. Haight, attorney; Clara A., wife of G. A. Cope, of Earlville, now a widow; Martin B., who died June 30, 1861, at the age of fifteen months, the result of a scald; and Charles B., who resides in Chicago and is in the railroad

business. Dr. Vosburgh has been connected with the drug business for a period of forty-two years and has been a prominent worker for the advancement of Earlville. He was a prime mover for the establishment of the graded-school system in this village and as a member of the board of education did all in his power to advance the cause of education. He was the president of the village board four or five years and three terms was mayor,—1881-2 and 1893-7. It was during his administration that the water-works was established here. He belongs to the county, state, and National Medical Associations, is a Knight Templar, and has filled all the offices in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in which he was a department grand master. He was brought up in the Presbyterian church, to which his wife was devoted and to which he is a liberal contributor, although not a member. Any religious object is sure of his support and his generosity is never appealed to in vain for a worthy cause.

MOSES W. GUNN.

Moses W. Gunn is probably one of the best known and most highly respected residents of LaSalle county, where he has passed his entire life and been prominent in religious work, and is a farmer of intelligence and great executive ability. He was born in LaSalle, Illinois, March 31, 1839, and is a son of Aaron and Nancy (Winters) Gunn, who were closely identified with the growth and prosperity of this community and who will be remembered for their many kindly deeds long after they have passed to their reward.

M. W. Gunn grew to manhood in LaSalle, attended select schools until seventeen years of age, then entered the public schools and supplemented this education with a year at Franklin College, at Franklin, Indiana. His education has been broadened by extensive travel in different parts of the United States. Mr. Gunn had a natural and inherited taste for farming and was a valuable help to his father in running his farm. He served ten months as a private in the Eleventh Illinois, Company K, enlisting in the infantry during the year 1864 and being mustered out July 14 of the following year, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He took part in the battle at Fort Blakely, April 9, 1865, and was in the engagements that took place around Mobile. As a farmer he has won an enviable reputation by reason of his advanced views and modern methods employed by him in conducting his work. He has lately patented a combined fence-wire stretcher, mender, splicer and staple puller, which he is now having manufactured and will

meet a ready sale as it will supply a need long felt by the builders of wire fence. He is at present trustee of his father's estate.

Mr. Gunn was united in matrimony May 14, 1889, to Miss Emma J. Richards, of Bureau county, this state. She is a daughter of David and Mary (Althouse) Richards, the former a native of Wales, whence he came to America when a lad of fourteen, and the latter a native of Pennsylvania and a descendant of Holland ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Gunn are the parents of four children: Wilmer, who died in March, 1893, at the age of three years; Frances Ivy; Carrol; and Emory Loyd. In politics Mr. Gunn is a Prohibitionist, and in religion a Baptist, having united with that church at an early age and been reared in a home whose atmosphere was one of true religion. He began preaching in the fall of 1872 as a lay preacher, and has continued the work since, doing a great deal of missionary work among the churches and accomplishing a vast amount of good. He is a speaker of power and influence and is well and favorably known for his untiring devotion to the cause. Personally he is genial and pleasant, an interesting converser, devoted in his friendships, and liberal in his charities.

CHARLES P. TAYLOR.

One of the able, enterprising young business men and financiers of LaSalle county is Charles P. Taylor, who is a director of the National City Bank of Ottawa, and is the cashier of the State Bank of Seneca. He possesses qualities which have rapidly brought him to the front and gained for him a reputation as a successful man of affairs, and his numerous friends predict for him a brilliant future in the world of finance.

Born December 3, 1866, in Rock Island, Illinois, Mr. Taylor is a son of Alfred H. and Sarah (Case)Taylor, who were natives of Vermont and Rock Island, respectively. The mother is a daughter of Charles H. Case, one of the sterling pioneers of the city mentioned, he having settled there in 1827. Among his early friends in that locality was the famous Indian chief, Black Hawk. The parents of Alfred H. Taylor were Rev. Philander and Faithful (Manning) Taylor, the former a native of the Green Mountain state, and both of English descent, and highly respected. After a busy, useful life, spent chiefly in Rock Island and Ottawa, A. H. Taylor is now retired, after eighteen years' service as the clerk of the supreme court, his home being in the last mentioned place.

When he was a lad of about nine years Charles P. Taylor removed to Ottawa with his parents, and there obtained his elementary education in the public schools. After being graduated at the high school of Ottawa he

entered the Michigan State University at Ann Arbor, and, after completing the curriculum, was graduated, in 1889. He then went to California with a party of friends on a pleasure trip, thus having the satisfaction of seeing something of this wonderful country before settling down to business life. Upon his return to Ottawa he accepted a position in the employ of the firm of Fisk & Beem, as bookkeeper and cashier, and continued with that house, one of the leading merchant tailoring establishments of the place, for two or three years. When the State Bank at Seneca was organized in 1892 Mr. Taylor was honored by being chosen as its cashier, the other officers being: Thomas D. Catlin, president, and A. F. Schoch, vice-president. A general banking business is transacted, and from the first the bank has possessed the confidence of the public, largely on account of the high standing and excellent business reputation of its officials, who are gentlemen of unimpeached integrity of character, and for many years have occupied distinguished places among the citizens of Ottawa.

Socially Mr. Taylor is exceedingly popular, and is connected with several fraternal organizations. While a college student he was a member of the Sigma Phi, a leading and influential Greek letter fraternity. He now belongs to Occidental Lodge, No. 40, F. and A. M.; Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M.; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T., in all of which he is highly esteemed.

In 1894 the marriage of C. P. Taylor and Miss Josephine Porter was solemnized in Ottawa, and they have a little son and daughter now to gladden their attractive home, the elder being named Sarah and the younger Alfred H., Jr., for his paternal grandfather. Mrs. Taylor is a daughter of J. E. Porter, the well-known manufacturer of agricultural implements at Ottawa. She possesses a superior education and many graces of character and manner, which endear her to everyone she chances to become acquainted with.

JOHN J. WITTE.

The German press of the United States is a power that must always be considered by those who watch the trend of public sentiment. The German press of Illinois has long been recognized as of first-class ability, and the Central Illinois Wochenblatt, published by J. J. Witte & Son, at Ottawa, long ago attained a standing as one of the strongest German papers in the state, which position it is likely to maintain for many years.

John J. Witte, editor and publisher of the Central Illinois Wochenblatt, was born in Colmar, Prussia, August 20, 1845, and came to the United States in 1865. He worked at his trade, that of printer, for four years in

New York, Milwaukee, Chicago and Springfield, until March 4, 1869, when he came to Ottawa and purchased an interest in the Wochenblatt. For ten years the paper was published by Denhard & Witte, until the death of Mr. Denhard in February, 1879, since which time it has been published by John J. Witte and the firm of J. J. Witte & Son. Mr. Witte is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is widely known in German newspaper circles throughout the country.

Edward R. Witte, junior member of the firm of J. J. Witte & Son, was born at Ottawa, April 4, 1874, and attended the schools of that city. He learned his trade in the Wochenblatt office, and was admitted to partnership with his father a few years ago.

He enlisted in Company M, of the Sixth Infantry, Illinois National Guard (now Company C, Third Infantry), March 29, 1891, and he is now second sergeant of the company. On January 2 he was appointed corporal in said company, and on May 3, 1897, he was promoted sergeant. On April 27 Edward R. Witte enlisted with Company C as quartermaster sergeant in the volunteer army, U. S. A., serving in that capacity throughout the Spanish war, doing duty on the island of Porto Rico, and was discharged with said company on January 19, 1899. Since then he has again enlisted in Company C, Illinois National Guard, and ranks as quartermaster sergeant.

The Wochenblatt has been ably edited for nearly thirty-two years by Mr. Witte, and is one of the most influential German papers in Illinois. For twenty-five years it has been the official German paper of LaSalle county, and is widely read throughout this part of Illinois.

CHARLES H. RATHBUN.

There is a class of representative American citizens who in the active affairs of life have won continued advancement and gratifying success. No land offers to its people such advantages as does this republic, and throughout the nation are found men who have continually worked their way upward to positions of prominence in military and civic circles and who in the business world have gained positions of distinction where substantial financial reward has awaited them. Such a one is C. H. Rathbun, of Streator, who is now superintendent of the mines of the Star Coal Company and is also the representative of various other important concerns.

Mr. Rathbun is a native of Steuben county, New York, born in 1846, and is a son of Hubbard S. and Lucretia (Calkins) Rathbun. In tracing the genealogy of the family we find that he is descended from a long line of

C. H. Rathbone

sturdy, intelligent and honorable ancestors, and that in both the lineal and collateral branches representatives have been prominent in the affairs which form the history of the country. The first of the name in America, of whom we have record, was Richard Rathbun, who was born in 1574. He married Marion Whipple, sister of Captain John Whipple, and they had four children, all sons. So far as we have been able to discover none of them have left issue except John. He was born about the year 1610 and married about 1633. His son John Rathbun (2) was born about 1634 and married Margaret Dodge, a daughter of Tristram Dodge, and their children were Thomas, John, Sarah, William Joseph and Samuel. The father of this family was one of those who on the 17th of August, 1660, met at the house of John Alcock, in Roxbury, Massachusetts, to confer concerning the purchase of Block island.

John Rathbun (3) was born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, about 1658, and married Ann Dodge, whose father settled on Block island in 1662. Just before his marriage he received from his father a deed to sixty acres of land on Block island, the consideration being "one barrel of pork." From some old records we learn that Great James and his wife (Indians) bound their daughter Betsey to John Rathbun and his wife Ann as an indentured servant for the period of eighteen years, the consideration being "one gallon of rum, one blanket in hand, and for five years afterward one gallon of rum. If she remained five years the said Rathbun to pay four blankets and every third year thereafter." The children of John and Ann Rathbun were Mercy, Jonathan, John, Joshua, Benjamin, Anna, Nathaniel and Thomas.

Benjamin Rathbun, the fifth member of that family, was born on Block island, February 11, 1701, and became a resident of Escoheag, Rhode Island, but afterward removed to West Greenwich. He was admitted a freeman there in 1737. He was married October 31, 1732, to Hannah Carpenter, and their children were Benjamin, Joshua, Anna, Mary, Elizabeth, Hannah and Martha.

Benjamin Rathbun (2) was born about 1720, was married November 11, 1742, to Mary Cahoon, and their children were Daniel, Benjamin, Job and Simeon. Of this family Job Rathbun was born at Colchester, Connecticut, in 1748, and married Deborah Welch, who was born in Wales, England. He removed to Howard, Steuben county, New York, in 1808, and there his death occurred May 1, 1838, when he had reached the age of ninety years. His wife died at the advanced age of ninety-two. Their children were Washington, Eunice, Russell, Deborah, Lydia, Betsy, Ami Riley, Hubbard W., Alfred, Sarah Ann, Amariah, Dana and Clarissa.

Hubbard Welch Rathbun, the grandfather of him whose name heads this record, was born about 1790, in New York, was married in 1810 to Abbie

Saxton, and died in 1859. Their children were Hubbard, Saxton and Abbie.

Hubbard Saxton Rathbun was born in the Empire state, May 11, 1811, and was married February 24, 1836, to Lucretia Ann Calkins, whose death occurred February 6, 1856. On the 15th of September, 1858, he married Julia Barton, and on the 20th of October, 1861, he was called to his final rest. The children of the first marriage were Helen M., Margelia R., Charles H. and Lucretia.

Charles H. Rathbun, whose name introduces this review, spent his boyhood days in his native town, and there acquired his preliminary education, which was supplemented by study in Rochester Seminary and Genesee College, being graduated in the latter institution in the class of 1863. Three years rolled away, at the end of which time the young man determined to seek his fortune in the west. Accordingly he came to Illinois, where he found employment with the Chicago & Iowa Railroad Company, after which he was with the Chicago, Burlington & Northern Railroad Company for several years. He diligently applied himself to the task assigned him, and his marked business and executive ability won him promotion from time to time until he was made auditor, at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he remained for two years. On the expiration of that period he severed his connection with the railroad and came to Streator in 1888 to superintend the mines of the Star Coal Company of this place. In 1881 he had been made secretary of the company, and in both capacities he has rendered invaluable service to the corporation. They own and control six mines, some located in other states, and most of these are kept under constant operation. The output of the Streator mines is about two hundred thousand tons annually, a ready sale being found for the product in this locality and in the neighboring metropolis. In addition to this business connection Mr. Rathbun is secretary of the Streator Mercantile Company, and is a director in the Union National Bank of this place, besides having other investments.

Some years ago Mr. Rathbun and his family took up their residence in one of the beautiful modern homes of Streator, located on one of the leading avenues of the city. On the 2d of August, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rathbun and Miss Mary M. Dawson, of Rochelle, Illinois, who died a few years later, leaving a daughter, Winnifred L., now the wife of William R. Hawkins. They have one son, Charles Rathbun Hawkins, born February 20, 1898. On the 25th of February, 1881, Mr. Rathbun and Miss Sarah M. Landon were united in marriage, in Oregon, Illinois. Her ancestry can be traced back through many generations to Ezekiel Landon and his wife, of Connecticut. Their son Horace married Bethia Jennie, of Connecticut, and one of their children was Horace Landon, Jr., who was

born at Collins, Erie county, New York, April 23, 1820, and married Amelia Agard, June 3, 1847. He died in the town of his nativity, June 6, 1855 and his wife died in Oregon, Illinois, July 20, 1899. Their children were Newton and Sarah M. The ancestors of Amelia Agard were Joshua Agard, who was born in 1756, married Ruth Needham and lived in Wilmington, Connecticut. He died January 24, 1830. His son, Joshua Agard, married Lucy Sibley, and lived in Concord, Erie county, New York. Amelia Agard, their daughter, was born in Erie county, New York, November 9, 1822. Joshua Agard, Sr., was a private in Captain Waterman Clift's company, of Plainfield, Connecticut, the Sixth Company of the Sixth Regiment, commanded by Colonel Samuel Holden Parsons.

In his political affiliation Mr. Rathbun is a staunch Republican. Socially he is a prominent Mason, being an honored member of Horicon Lodge, No. 244, F. & A. M.; Rochelle Chapter, No. 167, R. A. M., and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. That Mr. Rathbun has met success in his business life is indicated by the prominent position which he now occupies in commercial and financial circles. His career clearly illustrates the possibilities that are open in this country to earnest, persevering young men who have the courage of their convictions and are determined to be the architects of their own fortunes. When judged by what he has accomplished his right to a first place among the representative citizens of Streator cannot be questioned.

WILSON CONARD.

Occupying a leading position among the prominent and influential farmers of Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch, Wilson Conard, Ottawa, being his post-office address.

Wilson Conard is a native of the county in which he lives. He was born in Miller township, October 5, 1863, and is a son of the late David W. Conard. The following reference to his father we clip from a local newspaper:

"One more has been added to the list of pioneers who have passed away. Mr. David W. Conard, who during the last three years has been a resident of Marseilles, died in Ottawa on Monday, April 24, 1899. David Wilson Conard was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, April 7, 1825. At the age of three he accompanied his parents to Licking county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. At the time this great Mississippi valley region was being rapidly settled, believing he would find here larger opportunities, he started across the country on horseback, and arrived in LaSalle county in

May, 1844, and continued a resident of this county until his death. For several years after coming here he taught school in winter and worked at the carpenter trade in summer. In 1848 he bought one hundred acres of prairie land north of Marseilles and thus entered upon the work of farming, in which he was unusually successful. As he prospered he added to his original holding of land, until he became the owner of many hundred acres of real estate. He also became connected with banking interests in Marseilles and other cities, both east and west. A conservative estimate places his property interests at the time of his death at upward of two hundred thousand dollars. He constantly practiced a rigid economy in matters of personal expense. He was a man of untiring energy and possessed of an almost iron constitution. Until within a few years before his death he did not know what it was to have a day of sickness. His judgment in matters of business was excellent. His investments always turned out well. Although his chances for an education in early life were limited, he improved them so well that he was able, as already noted, to do the work of a teacher. Although so entirely occupied in the work of farming, he kept himself informed upon the questions of the day. His political convictions were strong and he was able to give to them very intelligent expression. His views were not those of the mere partisan, but rather those of the patriot. It may be said to his praise that he was honest in his business dealings. No part of his large property was won by treachery or fraud. He was considerate toward those who were under obligation to him, and he is kindly remembered and spoken of in this regard by many of them. Mr. Conard was twice married. On June 10, 1849, he married Barbara DeBolt, who died February 9, 1851, leaving one son, Virgil, who grew to manhood, but died in 1892. March 17, 1853, he married Elizabeth Grove, a cousin of his first wife, and she and three of her six children remain,—Wilson, a farmer of Rutland township; Grant, a lawyer of Ottawa; and Mrs. Samuel Montgomery of Marseilles, Illinois."

Wilson Conard was reared and educated in his native township and remained a member of the home circle until he reached his majority. Following in the footsteps of his father, he is devoting his energies to agricultural pursuits. The first farm he owned he bought at twenty-five dollars per acre. Subsequently selling it for sixty-five dollars an acre, he purchased his present farm of two hundred and forty acres, from his father, D. W. Conard.

Mr. Conard was married when twenty-three years of age to Miss Mary Batchelor, daughter of George and Christina (Morrison) Batchelor, natives of Scotland, where Mrs. Conard was born. They came to America when Mrs. Conard was a child, and she was reared and educated in Iroquois county, Illinois, being a student of Grand Prairie Seminary. Mr. and Mrs.

Conard have three children: David Roy, born December 19, 1887; and Laura E. and Anna C., twins, born October 16, 1889.

The Conard family attend worship at the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically Mr. Conard is a Democrat.

JAMES CAHILL.

No more eloquent illustration can be given of the appreciation of the benison bestowed upon its people by a republic than in the respect and admiration given to its self-made men. The history of such an one is always of interest, and the life record usually contains lessons which others may profitably follow. Mr. Cahill sought not the alluring promises of the future, but strove in the present to utilize the opportunities that surrounded him, and thus he won a distinguished position in connection with the great material industries of the state. His efforts were so discerningly directed along well defined lines that he carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook. A man of distinct and forceful individuality, of broad mentality and mature judgment, he left the impress of his individuality upon the industrial interests of LaSalle county, and while promoting his individual success also contributed materially to the general prosperity.

Mr. Cahill was a native of county Kerry, Ireland, and was one of a family of five children. His parents died on the Emerald Isle. When a young man he determined to seek a home in the New World, believing it offered superior advantages to those whose advancement in life must depend upon labor. In 1837 he arrived in Peru, Illinois, and with this city was identified throughout the remainder of his life. He entered upon his business career in the humble capacity of a wood chopper, but the work was honest and he was industrious and soon better things offered. He began buying and selling wood, and as his financial resources increased extended the field of his labors, until eventually he became quite an extensive dealer in that commodity. In 1853 he also opened a grocery and general mercantile establishment, which he conducted with marked success to the time of his death. For some time he was a director in the Peru National Bank, and gradually, as opportunity for safe investment offered, he became the owner of extensive realty holdings in LaSalle and in some of the southern counties of Illinois. In 1879 he began mining coal, owning the property known as the Cahill coal fields. It was not long before he had built up a thriving trade, and his business necessitated the employment of one hundred and twenty-five men in the mines. He shipped coal in large quantities and at the same time carried on a considerable retail business. Thus year by year

his capital was augmented until he took rank among the wealthy men of the county, and was regarded as one of the leading factors in business circles in northern Illinois.

In his political views Mr. Cahill was a Democrat and served for several years as a member of the school board of Peru, but never sought office. His membership in the Catholic Benevolent Society of America covered a period of several years, but before joining the organization he exemplified its spirit in his life. He married Miss Johanna Lee, also a native of Ireland, as were her parents; but her father spent his last years in America. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cahill were consistent members of St. Mary's Catholic church, and were numbered among its first parishioners. By their marriage they became the parents of five children, but two of the number have passed away, those living being Catherine, Cornelius J. and John D. Death did not long separate the parents, for Mrs. Cahill died October 21, 1887, and a month later, on the 24th of November, Mr. Cahill departed this life.

Cornelius J. Cahill, the elder son, occupies a leading position in connection with the business interests of his native county. He was born in Peru, July 18, 1854, and for forty-five years he has resided on one street. He has long been familiar to the people of the town as one of its oldest, most enterprising and public-spirited citizens, and he has carried forth with ability the work which his father began. He was reared in his native town and acquired his education in the public schools and in the parochial school of the Christian Brothers of that town. During the months of vacation and after leaving school he acted as clerk in his father's store until 1879, when his father began his coal-mining operations, which were afterward developed so extensively. In 1881 Cornelius Cahill assumed the superintendency of the mines, and has since remained in charge, so that the success which has attended this important industrial concern is largely attributable to his management. The company now employs about two hundred men and ships coal throughout Illinois and Iowa and quite extensively in other western states; also handles hard coal in large quantities. While the stockholders in the company have gained a handsome competence from the mines, the industry has also proved a very valuable one to the community, furnishing employment to so large a force of workmen.

On the 5th of November, 1884, Mr. Cahill was united in marriage to Miss Bridget Kirby, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Berry) Kirby, and they now have three children,—Mary, James and Gertrude. The family are parishioners of St. Mary's Catholic church, of Peru, and in politics Mr. Cahill is a stanch Democrat, well informed on the issues of the day. He is not an office-seeker, however, and has persistently refused to accept several important offices to which he might have been elected without opposition,

so great is his personal popularity. His time is devoted to his business interests, the superintendence of the mines, and the management of the estate, being one of its trustees, in connection with his brother.

The birth of John D. Cahill occurred during the great civil war, June 23, 1863. He attended the public schools of Peru, his native town, and later pursued his studies in what was then known as the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels, but now called the Niagara University, on account of its location on the bank of the Niagara river, near the suspension bridge, on the American side. Well equipped with a good education for the duties of life, Mr. Cahill entered his father's store, where he served as a clerk until his father's death, when he took charge of the financial affairs of the estate, the other trustees being his brother Cornelius and Michael Flaherty. They continue to operate the Cahill coal mines and to carry on the various business enterprises begun by the father, and the volume of business which they control is an indication of the splendid success which is attending their efforts.

On the 11th of October, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of John D. Cahill and Miss Margaret A. Monks, daughter of Joseph Monks. They have two children, James and Zita. The Cahill family is one of the most prominent in Peru, and in social circles its representatives occupy leading positions. Mr. and Mrs. John Cahill are members of St. Mary's Catholic church and he belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Catholic Order of Foresters. His political support is unwaveringly given the Democracy. No name is better known in connection with the coal-mining interests of Illinois than that of Cahill, and in the development of the "black diamond" districts the owners have not only promoted their individual wealth, but have also added to the general prosperity by advancing commercial activity.

JONAH HIBBS.

The subject of this sketch is one of the representative farmers of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, Illinois, and has been identified with this place since 1862. A brief review of his life is herewith given:

Jonah Hibbs was born in Red Stone township, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, February 15, 1844, and has in his veins a mixture of Scotch, German and English blood. His father, Jonah Hibbs, Sr., was of Scotch and German descent; his mother, whose maiden name was Nancy Jeffries, was of English extraction—both being natives of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, the latter born near Uniontown. In their family were six children, namely: Ann Eliza Walters, of Nebraska; Mary Ann Moss, of New Salem, Fayette county, Pennsylvania; Harriet Galligher, of Des Moines, Iowa;

Clarissa, wife of M. C. Near, died near Des Moines, Iowa; Jacob, who died when young; Lacey, a resident of Grand Ridge, Illinois; and Jonah. The father died in his native county, at the age of sixty-one years; the mother at the time of death was eighty-two. Both were members of the Presbyterian church.

Jonah Hibbs is the youngest of his father's family. His father being a farmer, he was reared to farm life, his youthful days being passed like those of other boys in the neighborhood, working in the field in summer and attending the district school in winter. In 1862, at the age of eighteen, he came to Illinois and engaged in farming with his brother Lacey, in LaSalle county, and was associated with him for a period of ten years. His present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on section 16, Grand Rapids township, he purchased in 1883. This is one of the desirable farms of the township, is well improved with good buildings, fences, etc., and is under a high state of cultivation, devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Hibbs was married January 24, 1884, to Miss Elsie Wakey, who was born and reared in LaSalle county. Mrs. Hibbs' father, William Wakey, who was a native of Germany, came to this country when a young man and located first in Connecticut, coming later to Illinois and settling in LaSalle county, near Ottawa. He was married in this county, December 14, 1844, to Miss Elizabeth Hopple, a native of Perry county, Pennsylvania, whose parents, Solomon and Sarah (Cramer) Hopple, came to Illinois with their family in 1842 and located on Covel creek, in Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county. William Wakey died in 1886. His wife is still living, a resident of Grand Rapids township. She is a Methodist, as also was her husband. For years he was prominent and active in church work, being a class leader and leader of the choir. In the Wakey family were ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Hibbs have one child, a son, William I., born August 22, 1887. Politically Mr. Hibbs gives his support to the Democratic party, and religiously he and his wife are Presbyterians.

SAMUEL R. LEWIS.

The career of the Hon. Samuel R. Lewis, of Fall River township, is well worthy of emulation. Faithful and devoted to what he has believed to be right and best, he has thereby won and continues to enjoy the friendship and genuine regard of every one, as the direct outcome of his noble life. Now, in the eveningtide of his days, he may look back with few regrets, for he has ever striven to do his whole duty.

The Lewis family originated in Wales, and in 1682 was founded in the

United States by one Henry Lewis, who lived in a small town in Pembrokeshire. After reaching America he lived in Chester county, Pennsylvania, on the west bank of the Delaware river, and was a personal friend of William Penn, who had emigrated to this country in 1681. The family of Henry Lewis, at the time that he came to America, comprised his wife Margaret, two sons and a daughter, and his aged father, Evan Lewis. The grandfather of Mr. Lewis wedded a Miss Hogue, a member of the Society of Friends.

The parents of S. R. Lewis were Jehu and Rachel (Mills) Lewis, the former born in 1781, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and the latter, likewise a native of the Keystone state, was the daughter of Henry Mills, a Quaker. For many years after their marriage Jehu Lewis and his wife resided in Washington county, Pennsylvania, but in 1833 they removed with their family to Putnam county, Illinois. They settled on what was then called Clear creek, and in 1855 the father was summoned to the silent land. The wife and mother survived many years, dying in April, 1874, when she was laid to rest beside her husband in the Quaker cemetery at Clear Creek, Putnam county.

Samuel R. Lewis was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1818, and there spent his early years. A very important step in his life was taken, January 1, 1842, when he married Miss Ann Eliza Harley, born June 13, 1820, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Rudolph Harley. About a year after his marriage Mr. Lewis removed to the homestead on section 21, Fall River township, which has since been his place of abode. His first purchase was a quarter section of canal land, and, as it was wild prairie, it had to be broken with the plow. In due time industry and persevering toil brought their reward, and Mr. Lewis long ago was considered one of the rich and influential citizens of his township. He invested in more land, from time to time, until he owned six hundred and forty acres. His homestead is finely equipped with substantial buildings and all modern conveniences for farming, and on the north side of the road which divides his land there is a splendid growth of timber, and a spring of pure water, which flows freely at all seasons, unaffected by the most severe droughts.

By the union of Samuel R. Lewis and his wife four sons were born,—sons of whom they have just reason to be proud. William R., the eldest, married Miss Ellen Eichelburger, and is a successful farmer and the present supervisor of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county; Edward C., the second son, is an attorney at law of Chicago. He was born in LaSalle county, October 5, 1845, and acquired his literary education at Lake Forest, Chicago University and Wheaton College. Determining to enter the legal pro-

fession, he was graduated in 1865 in the Cincinnati Law School. For five years he practiced law, and for twenty years he was engaged in stock raising and breeding thoroughbred cattle and horses. For twelve years he served as a member of the board of supervisors of LaSalle county, and during one-half of that period was chairman of the board. From 1882 until 1890 he was a member of the state board of agriculture of Illinois, and for about three years, from 1882 until 1885, was railway and warehouse commissioner of this state. In 1869 he married Miss Nellie A. Armstrong, daughter of Joel W. Armstrong, of Deer Park township, LaSalle county, and they now have three children: Mrs. Mabel Lewis Kitchen, of Kansas City, Missouri; Samuel R., also of Kansas City; and Julia Isabel, who is still with her parents. Mr. Lewis is now associated with John H. Kitchen in a business conducted under the name of the American Warming & Ventilating Company, which deals in modern heating apparatus, having a large factory and office in Chicago and a branch office in Kansas City, Missouri. Charles Lewis, the third son of the family, is a graduate of Oberlin College, at Oberlin, Ohio. He studied law in the office of the firm of Cook, Lawrence & Campbell, of Chicago, and after being admitted to the bar removed to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he practiced law for several years, and also served for one term as county attorney. Removing to Duluth, Minnesota, he was elected circuit judge of that district, and has recently been elected to the supreme court of Minnesota. The duties of the office he will assume on the 1st of January, 1900. Samuel Morris Lewis, the youngest of the family, now has the management of the home farm. He wedded Miss Mary Thomas, daughter of Colonel John Thomas, of Belleville, Illinois, and they have two children: John M. and Sherman, who are students in the Ottawa high school.

The public services of S. R. Lewis have been marked, redounding greatly to his credit. In 1857 he was elected to the important position of treasurer of LaSalle county, in which capacity he served for four years, discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. In 1878 he was elected to represent his county in the state senate, and served through two regular and one extra session. During that time he was a member of several important committees and was chairman of the committee on railroads and canals. At various times he has acted as supervisor of his township and occupied the important position of chairman of the county board for four years. To the principles of the Republican party he has been loyal ever since its organization. His first presidential vote was cast in 1840 for James G. Birney, the Abolition candidate. He was a delegate to the convention which organized the Republican party in Illinois, in 1854, and has since taken a deep interest and active part in political affairs, but has

not stooped to the political chicanery which is, alas! too common at the present day; on the contrary, he has not sought office, and made no slight sacrifice of his personal wishes and inclinations when he assumed the duties to which he was called by his friends and neighbors. Honorable in business, reliable in positions of public trust, loyal in citizenship, faithful in friendship, over the record of his life falls no shadow of wrong or suspicion of evil.

FRANCIS M. FISHBURN.

Francis M. Fishburn, one of the respected citizens of LaSalle county, Illinois, for nearly half a century, was born April 9, 1836, the son of Jacob Fishburn and grandson of Deterich Fishburn, the latter a soldier in the war of 1812. Jacob Fishburn was a native of Middletown, Pennsylvania. He married Miss Catherine Murray, daughter of Francis Murray, who was of Scotch descent, and in 1840 Mr. and Mrs. Fishburn came west, making the journey, as was the custom in those days, by team. In 1840 Mr. Fishburn settled in LaSalle county, and here passed the rest of his life and died, his age at death being seventy years. By trade he was a cooper. His good wife lived to the ripe age of seventy-five years. Both were members of the Lutheran church. Of their seven children we record that four are now living, namely: Francis M., whose name forms the heading of this sketch; America, wife of G. W. Klive; Margaret, wife of James Smith; and Benjamin, a resident of South Ottawa. Of those deceased one died in infancy, and the other two, James and William, died at the ages of four and two years, respectively.

Francis M. Fishburn, the direct subject of this review, was a child of four years when brought west by his parents from Pennsylvania. His youthful days were passed in assisting his father on the farm and in attending during the winter months the public school. On reaching manhood he engaged in farming on his own account and has devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits ever since. He has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, well stocked and improved with first-class buildings, the residence surrounded with shade trees. Everything about the premises, buildings, fences, etc., and well-cultivated fields, all go to stamp the owner as a man of thrift and enterprise, up-to-date in his farming ideas.

Mr. Fishburn was married in 1861 to Miss Caroline Hogaboom, daughter of John and Abigail Hogaboom, early settlers of this country. She died in 1873, leaving four children, namely: George H., a resident of Prairie Center township, LaSalle county; Catherine, wife of P. Woods, of Prairie Center township; Francis M., and Harry S., both of Prairie Center town-

ship. By this marriage there were two other children, deceased: James B. and William, who died at the ages of thirteen and eight years respectively. In 1882 Mr. Fishburn married for his second wife Miss Sarah E. Kain, daughter of William and Catherine (Snyder) Kain. Mr. and Mrs. Kain were natives of Pennsylvania. Mr. Kain died in Pulaski county, Illinois, at the age of seventy-two years, and Mrs. Kain is still living, her home being in Ottawa, Illinois, and her age, at this writing, eighty-eight years. In the Kain family were twelve children, six sons and six daughters, nine of whom are now living, viz.: George, of this county; Jacob, who was a soldier in the civil war, a member of the Twenty-sixth Illinois Infantry Volunteers; Catherine, wife of Wallace Herdon, of Ottawa; Sarah, wife of F. M. Fishburn; America, wife of J. A. Townsend, of Ottawa; Joseph, a veteran of the civil war, and now a resident of Jefferson, Arkansas; Simon, a resident of Ottawa; Florence, wife of George Lewis, of Ottawa; and Martin, also of Ottawa. The deceased members were Mary, wife of Andrew Bach, of Ottawa; Eliza, wife of Frank Frost; and William, a soldier in the One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the civil war, who was killed in the battle of Missionary Ridge.

Mr. Fishburn is politically a Democrat, and fraternally a Mason. A genial, cordial man, he has many friends throughout the county.

GEORGE D. LADD.

George Dana Ladd, one of Peru's most honored and distinguished citizens, and for more than two score years connected with numerous local industries and enterprises of this place, came from fine old Puritan stock, and was the embodiment of many of the best traits of that hardy, brave, God-fearing race who nobly withstood the hardships, dangers and privations of bleak New England.

On the 24th of March, 1633, as the old records show, one Daniel Ladd sailed for America from England; and in the archives of Ipswich may be seen a deed executed to this worthy man entitling him to six acres of ground. Later he was one of the founders of Salisbury and Haverhill, Massachusetts, his death occurring in the town last mentioned, July 27, 1693. He had eight children, of whom the sixth, Nathaniel, had seven children. The eldest was Nathaniel, and his third son, Edward, married Catherine Thing. That worthy couple had a son, Edward, and a son who received his mother's maiden name, Thing. Thing Ladd was the father of fourteen children, of whom Edward, the ninth, married Sophia Gookin.

George Dana Ladd, the fourth child of Edward and Sophia Ladd, was born in Peacham, Caledonia county, Vermont, June 15, 1833. His father

Geo. D. Load

was a thrifty farmer, influential and highly respected in his community; and the mother, whose educational advantages had been better than her husband's, was a woman of exceptional ability. She died February 26, 1849, and soon after that sad event our subject left home. Joining his brother Leonard, in Cincinnati, Ohio, they both clerked in a book-store, but within a month after he landed in that city George D. Ladd found that his services as a nurse were in requisition, as his brother was stricken with the cholera. Though the young man survived, they concluded to return to the old Vermont homestead, that his health might be fully restored.

Agriculture was not well suited to the rather delicate constitution of our subject in his early manhood; indeed, it was commonly believed that he would die with consumption sooner or later. Always a great student, he learned many of his lessons while guiding the plow, and after leaving the district schools he attended the academy, during the winter seasons, at Danville Green, and was successfully engaged in teaching for several terms. He then took up the study of law, was admitted to the bar in 1855, and at once started west to found a home and embark upon his career. For a brief time he resided in Racine, Wisconsin, and there formed the acquaintance of Judge Blanchard, now of Ottawa, whose advice had great weight in inducing him to locate in Peru. Coming here in 1856, he established an office and soon had won favorable notice as a lawyer. Naturally he was not fond of legal wars and litigation, and as the years passed his friends were not surprised that he gradually dropped out of practice and more and more turned his attention to his various financial investments and outside interests. He was one of the prime movers in the incorporation of the Illinois Valley & Northern Railroad, now a part of the Burlington system, and in its subsequent construction. His invaluable services in this matter have resulted to the lasting benefit of Peru, and had he accomplished nothing else for the welfare of this locality his name would deserve to live in the annals of the county.

Space could not be reserved to enumerate in full the many enterprises in which the genius of George D. Ladd found manifestation. During the last years of his busy life he was prominently connected with the Peru Elevator Stock Company, and previously he had been active in the organizations of the Peru Water Works and Electric Light Company, the Peru Water & Gas Pipe Company and the Illinois & Wisconsin Live-stock Company, besides many others of lesser note.

In his political convictions, Mr. Ladd was broad minded, and, posting himself thoroughly upon all the great issues of the day, acted in accordance with the verdict which his judgment returned. For the most part a Democrat, he was still so liberal and unbiased by party ties that he voted for

Harrison and McKinley, as a matter of principle, believing that the good of the country would be best subserved by their election. Never a seeker of political preferment, upon his own account, he could not disregard the wishes of his fellow citizens, when, in 1886, they honored him with the office of mayor of Peru; but at the end of his two-years term he declined re-election. He was a true friend of the workingmen, and many a deed of kindly charity and unostentatious assistance did he perform. Quiet and reserved, he found publicity especially distasteful; but his name and fame were such that he was not always able to avoid being brought into prominence.

In early life he identified himself with the Masonic order and the Presbyterian church. After coming to Peru he joined the Congregational church, from which he afterward withdrew, owing to the fact that a political sermon was delivered from the pulpit,—a thing that offended all of his principles of good taste. In after years he expressed regret to his family that he had severed his connection with the church, but his action in this matter was but an expression of his strong individuality and his inherited belief that church and state should be kept separate, each perfoming its mission in its proper place. Deeply mourned by the whole community, Mr. Ladd passed away at his home in this city, in 1898, at the age of sixty-five years.

The wife of his youth was a Miss Lorinda Laird, of Danville, Vermont, and of the two daughters born to them Kate, the elder, now the wife of Thomas F. Bitner, resides in Milwaukee; while the younger, Lora, died when but six years old. Some time subsequent to the death of his first wife, Mr. Ladd wedded Mrs. Louise Banks, who died without children. In 1875 the marriage of Mr. Ladd and Miss Christina Murray was solemnized. Mrs. Ladd, who survives her husband, is a native of Peru, where her father was a prominent merchant for years, and was one of the early settlers. Both of the parents of Mrs. Ladd, Andrew and Bessie Belle (Buchanan) Murray, were natives of Scotland, and they are now residents of St. Louis. The eldest son of our subject and wife, George Dana, is now employed in the ore department of the Illinois Zinc Company and stationed at Joplin, Missouri; Frank Fenton, the second son, is with the same company; and the younger sons are Andrew Murray and Lester L.

MILTON B. PEDDICORD.

Milton B. Peddicord, an energetic and influential farmer of Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born in this county, January 22, 1857, his parents being E. S. and Elizabeth (Johnson) Peddicord. His father was a Virginian, having been ushered into existence in that state

July 9, 1829. He left his native state when a lad, traveling on foot to Licking county, Ohio, where he remained ten years, going thence to Delaware county, that state, where he worked two years. In 1870 he came west to Illinois, and during his life was known as one of the most successful business men of LaSalle county. September 20, 1842, he was joined in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Johnson, a native of Ohio. Nine children were born to them,—six sons and three daughters, namely: William D., of Dallas county, Iowa; Lewis E., of Chicago, Illinois; Willis P., who died in boyhood; Charles J. of Miller township; Isabella, deceased; Milton B., of this sketch; Edward P.; Jennie L., of Marseilles, Illinois; and Ami J., of Nevada, Iowa.

Milton B. Peddicord was educated in this county, where he grew to manhood and adopted the vocation of farming. He is one of the progressive farmers of the county and takes a pride in the appearance of his property. He was married February 23, 1882, to Miss Clara E. Gibson, daughter of George W. Gibson of this township, and took his bride at once to the farm he now owns. This contains one hundred and sixty acres, and is located one and three-quarters miles from Wedron station. The house in which they formerly resided was replaced in 1896 by a new building of modern architecture, one of the finest country residences to be found in the county. They have two children,—a daughter and a son: Myrtle M., born August 29, 1886, and George E., born May 12, 1890.

Mr. Peddicord takes an intelligent interest in politics, and is a strong Democrat. He has been an able member of the school board for more than sixteen years, and has lost no opportunity of furthering the cause of education. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and has the respect of the entire community.

HENRY GLOVER HALL.

Occupying a representative position among the leading farmers of LaSalle county, Illinois, is the subject of this review, Henry G. Hall, whose postoffice address is Wedron.

Mr. Hall was born in Ottawa, also in this county, November 29, 1853, and was a son of the late Joseph Hall, of Dayton township, this county, who was one of the pioneer settlers here. He was a native of Binghamton, New York, and in 1836, when a young man of twenty, came west to Illinois, making the journey by canal to Buffalo and thence by wagon to his destination, Ottawa. He had learned the trade of blacksmith in his native state, and on taking up his residence in Ottawa engaged in work here at

his trade. Some years after his location here he acquired the property on which the Ottawa postoffice building is now located, and at this point had a shop and conducted a successful business for a number of years. In 1857 he purchased a farm in Dayton township, where his efforts in the direction of cultivating and improving were characterized by that same push and energy that had gained him success at the forge. Soon he became one of the prominent farmers in the township, and such was his life that he won the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. He was married in 1841 to Miss Sarah Bryant Gurley, in Ottawa. Mrs. Hall was born in Hartford, Connecticut, May 23, 1823, and was a daughter of Jason Gurley, a cousin of the author, William Cullen Bryant. She was a sister of ex-Congressman John A. Gurley, a Universalist minister of Ohio, and governor of the territory of Arizona under President Lincoln. Mrs. Hall died in November, 1896, after a residence of over fifty-five years in LaSalle county. Joseph Hall died in 1890, at the age of seventy-four years. Their children are Harriet, wife of E. G. Keith, of Chicago; Charles A., engaged in the fruit and insurance business at San Jose, California; Frank G., a wholesale merchant of Chicago; Henry G., whose name heads this sketch; John A., at Hinsdale, Illinois, is an agent for Mr. Phipps, of Phipps & Carnegie; Jason G., at the homestead; Mary L., wife of L. W. Fuller, of Chicago; and Clarence R., connected with the Metropolitan Bank of Chicago.

Henry G. Hall was four years old at the time his father moved to the farm, as above stated, in 1857, and here his youthful days were passed. In 1875 he went to Chicago and became associated with his brother, C. A. Hall, in the commission business. Later he went into the custom house, where for eight years he filled a responsible position. In 1894 he returned to the home of his childhood and resumed farming, taking in charge the home farm, a tract of three hundred and eighty acres, and since that date he has managed farming operations with as much skill and success as though he had never known any other business. Politically he affiliates with the Republican party. He is unmarried.

JOHN C. AMES.

If those who claim that fortune favored certain individuals above others will but investigate the cause of success and failure, it will be found that the former is largely due to the improvement of opportunity, the latter to the neglect of it. Fortunate environments encompass nearly every man at some stage of his career, but the strong man and the successful man is he

who realizes that the proper moment has come, that the present and not the future holds his opportunity. The man who makes use of the Now and not the To Be is the one who passes on the highway of life others who started out ahead of him and reaches the goal of prosperity far in advance of them. It is this quality in John C. Ames, of Streator, that has made him a leader in the business world of his county and won him a name in connection with commercial and political interests that is known throughout the state. He is now occupying the responsible position of United States marshal for the northern district of Illinois, and at the same time is closely allied with the business affairs of Streator.

A native of LaSalle county, Mr. Ames was born on his father's farm in Freedom township, July 17, 1852, his parents being Isaac and Arilla (Mooar) Ames, natives of Maine and pioneer settlers of LaSalle county, where they took up their abode in 1848. In the usual manner of farmer lads, among richly cultivated fields and verdant meadows, Mr. Ames spent his youth, assisting in the labors of the farm through the summer months, while in the winter season he attended the district school of the neighborhood. Subsequently his educational privileges were extended by a two-year course in the Illinois State Normal School, at Normal. On laying aside his text-books in 1872, in order to learn the more difficult lessons in the school of experience, he joined John Dickerman in the drug business in Streator, under the firm name of Dickerman & Ames. The following year, however, he sold his interest, and in 1873 engaged in the hardware business in connection with his father, under the firm style of I. Ames & Son, which connection was continued until 1875, when their store was destroyed by fire. The subject of this sketch then resumed business alone and became the proprietor of an extensive hardware store, which brought to him a handsome income. He conducted it successfully until the 1st of July, 1885, when he disposed of his stock in order to give his attention more entirely to the lumber business, in which he had embarked in 1878. In that year he organized the J. C. Ames Lumber Company, of which he is still president, and under his able direction the enterprise has been carried forward, yielding a handsome return to the stockholders.

Mr. Ames has by no means limited his efforts to one line of undertaking, but has been a promoter of many enterprises which have contributed not only to his personal prosperity, but have also advanced the general welfare through the promotion of commercial activity. He was one of the incorporators of the Plumb Hotel Stock Company, and was made a member of its board of directors. He was also a director and vice president of the Streator Loan & Building Association, which was organized in 1874. In 1891 he organized the City National Bank of Streator, and remained its

president until he resigned his position to take that of United States marshal, to which he had been appointed by President McKinley.

With the growth of the city Mr. Ames grew in influence, affluence and in public esteem, and not only became a leader in commercial circles, but was also called into prominence in political life and ably fulfilled many public trusts reposed in him. He has filled many local offices, has been alderman and county supervisor, and in April, 1885, was elected mayor of Streator, which position he filled for two terms, when he declined a third nomination. His administration was at once practical, progressive and beneficial, he using his official prerogatives for the substantial improvement and advancement of the city. Under Governor Fifer he served as one of the canal commissioners of Illinois for four years, and by President McKinley he was appointed to his present position of United States marshal for the northern district of Illinois. This was an honor well merited, for he has not only been a recognized leader in the ranks of the Republican party in the state for many years, but also in every official position which he has filled he has discharged his duties in a manner which has won him the highest commendation by reason of his fidelity to duty and his faithfulness to the trust reposed in him.

On the 2d of March, 1875, Mr. Ames was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Ross, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hunter) Ross, of Lacon, Illinois. They have one child living, Isaac Carlos, now doing service for his country in the Philippine islands. One daughter, Aurelia Elizabeth, died at the age of fourteen months, and a son, Walter Cope, died December 28, 1895, at the age of eleven years. In Streator, where they have so long made their home, Mr. and Mrs. Ames are held in the highest regard, and their residence is the center of a cultured society circle. In his social relations Mr. Ames is connected with the Masonic fraternity, belonging to Streator Lodge, No. 607, F. and A. M., to Streator Chapter, No. 147, R. A. M., and to Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, Knight Templars. He is a man of fine personal appearance, of courteous deportment and social disposition, and, above all, of that sterling worth of character which wins recognition everywhere and commands respect in every land and every clime.

OLE ERICKSON.

Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, includes among its well-known citizens the subject of this sketch, Ole Erickson, who has for three years figured in the public capacity of road commissioner, and who during this time has not only extended his acquaintance throughout the township.

but also has won the confidence and favor of those with whom he has come in contact.

As his name suggests, Mr. Erickson is a Norwegian. He was born in Norway, January 12, 1852, a son of George and Winnie (Clarkson) Erickson, who were the parents of seven children. Two of this number, Rjestine and Maria, are deceased. Those living are Ole, the direct subject of this review; Julia Jacobson, a resident of Lee county; and Bertha, Carrie and Mina, in Norway.

On his emigration to this country Ole Erickson located first in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he remained for five months, at the end of that time coming to LaSalle county, Illinois, which has since been his home. In 1879 he purchased his present farm, one hundred and twenty acres, in Miller township, which he has improved with a modern residence, other good buildings, etc., and has since that date devoted his energies to the cultivation of his broad acres.

The same year he purchased his farm Mr. Erickson took to himself a wife. Mrs. Erickson, formerly Miss Caroline Anderson, is a native of Miller township, LaSalle county, and a daughter of Andrew Anderson, deceased. They have five children: Celia, Florence, Olive, George and Alice. Also they have three children deceased, all having died in infancy. Their daughter, Miss Olive, is an accomplished musician, and Celia is a successful teacher.

Mr. Erickson is a Democrat. Besides filling the office of road commissioner, above referred to, he has for nine years been a member of the school board. He is identified with the Lutheran church, while his wife belongs to the Church of Latter Day Saints.

D. H. WICKWIRE.

Since 1867 the subject of this sketch, D. H. Wickwire, has been a resident of LaSalle county, Illinois, and since that time has owned and occupied his present farm near Ottawa. As one of the representative men of the county, some personal mention of him is appropriate in this work.

D. H. Wickwire was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, January 3, 1844, the home of the distinguished Henry Ward Beecher, and his talented sister, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and comes of English ancestry, his grandsire, Daniel Wickwire, having been one of the early settlers of Connecticut. Chester Wickwire, the father of D. H., was born in Connecticut, May 27, 1810, and passed his life and died there, his death occurring in 1887, at the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, whose maiden name was Miss Mary

A. Harrisson, was born October 2, 1816, and is still living. To them were born seven children, six of whom reached adult age, namely: Jennie Smith, of Cortland county, New York; D. H., whose name introduces this sketch; Julia J.; L. C.; Eugene, of Berkshire county, Massachusetts; and Gertrude Hornbeck, of Falls Village, Connecticut.

D. H. in his boyhood attended the district and "select" schools of the neighborhood in which he was reared, and, his father being a dairy farmer, the boy found plenty of work to do at home when he was not in school. In the fall of 1867 he came to Illinois, and settled in LaSalle county, and has since been operating a dairy farm.

Mr. Wickwire was married in 1871 to Miss Isabella Grove. Her father, David Grove, was a native of Ohio, and was for many years a prominent citizen of LaSalle county, where he died in 1880. Mrs. Wickwire's mother, before marriage Miss Amanda Houser, was a native of Licking county, Ohio. She died in August, 1849, leaving seven children, six of whom are living, as follows: Elizabeth, widow of D. W. Conard; Catherine Grove, of LaSalle county; Samuel, also of this county; George, of Ottawa, Illinois; Isabella; and Eliza, wife of William Chapman, of Freedom township, LaSalle county. Mr. and Mrs. Wickwire have had two children: Gertrude, born October 26, 1882, died in May, 1885; and Herbert G., born October 18, 1876, is at home with his parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Wickwire are identified with the Congregational church, and politically he is a Republican.

URIAH T. SMITH.

Uriah T. Smith, proprietor of the livery, sale and feed stables located at the corner of Washington and Rose streets, near the railroad station, in Marseilles, Illinois, has been successfully engaged in business in this city for a number of years. His livery barn is a spacious brick structure, sixty by one hundred feet in dimensions, and is well stocked with a large number of good horses and an assortment of carriages, cabs, etc. The business as conducted by Mr. Smith is a successful one, and both as an enterprising and up-to-date business man and as a public-spirited citizen does the proprietor of this establishment merit mention in the present work.

Uriah T. Smith was born at Starruca, Wayne county, Pennsylvania, November 1, 1826, and was reared in his native state. His father, Uriah Smith, was the son of a Revolutionary soldier and was born on Long Island, New York. He married Miss Sarah Wyant, a native of Orange county, New York, and their union was blessed in the birth of ten children, five sons

and five daughters, four of whom are still living, namely: Michael, a resident of Waymont, Pennsylvania; Uriah T., whose name forms the heading of this sketch; Wesley T., first lieutenant of the Sixteenth Kansas Infantry during the civil war, and now a resident of Amboy, Illinois; and Sarah Curtis, who resides in Sherman, Pennsylvania. The father of this family died in Pennsylvania, on the old homestead, and the mother passed away at Mound City, Linn county, Kansas.

In his young manhood Uriah T. Smith was employed in the lumber trade, running rafts down the Delaware river. He remained in Pennsylvania until 1857, when he came west and located in Missouri, where he resided at the time of the civil war. He enlisted as a member of Company C, Sixth Kansas Infantry, and served for eighteen months under Colonel Jamison.

In the meantime, June 14, 1853, before he left the east, which was in 1857, he was married, in Pennsylvania, to Miss Amanda C. Hale. She died in 1869, leaving a family of seven children, namely: Sophronia, Allie, Fanny, Emma, Luella, Wesley and Uriah W. Luella is now a resident of Montana and Wesley lives in Boone, Iowa. October 1, 1871, Mr. Smith was a second time married, Joicy Deem becoming his wife. They have two children, Gertrude and Forrest E. In politics Mr. Smith is a Republican.

JOHN RINKER.

Among the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to the New World is John Rinker, who resides near Marseilles. He is now numbered among the early settlers of LaSalle county and at all times he has been loyal to his adopted land, having faithfully served in the Union army during the civil war, while in days of peace he displays the same fidelity to duty which marked his career upon the battle-fields of the south.

Born in the Fatherland, October 17, 1840, he is a son of Christian and Frederica Rinker. His mother died when he was only six years of age, leaving five children, namely: Charles, who was a soldier in the war of the Rebellion and is now living at Marseilles; Fred, who also followed the Stars and Stripes during the period of civil strife, and is now a resident of Hastings, Nebraska; John, of this review; Christian, who is living in LaSalle county; and Frederica, deceased. After the death of his first wife the father was again married, and by the second union also had five children: William, who is living in Great Bend, Kansas; Henry, whose home is near Papillion, Nebraska; Nancy, deceased; Mrs. Jane Shobert, of Nebraska; and Mrs. Lizzie Seybold, who is living near Papillion, Nebraska. In 1853 Christian

Rinker left his native land and with his family sailed from Antwerp, Belgium. After a voyage of sixty-seven days he landed at New York and at once proceeded to Chicago, whence he made his way to Ottawa. He then purchased forty acres of land on section 25, Grand Rapids township, seven miles from Ransom, and there carried on agricultural pursuits until his death, which occurred in 1898, when he had reached the advanced age of eighty-eight years.

John Rinker has resided in LaSalle county since he was thirteen years of age, and has long been a prominent representative of its agricultural interests. Amid the fields and verdant meadows his youth was passed and he was early trained to the practical work of the farm. When the country became involved in civil war and President Lincoln issued his call for three hundred thousand men, with a marked spirit of patriotism he offered his services to the government, August 12, 1862, and was assigned to Company D, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry, under the command of Captain Collins and Colonel Moore. During the battle at Hartsville, Tennessee, he was taken prisoner, but was soon afterward exchanged and participated in the battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. On the 20th of July, 1864, he was wounded by a bullet which lodged in his right ankle, and was sent to the hospital at Nashville. In June, 1865, he was honorably discharged and with a creditable military record he returned to his home to resume the peaceful vocations of civil life.

In 1869 Mr. Rinker was united in marriage to Miss Minnie Sunderman, daughter of Simon Sunderman, a native of Germany. Fourteen children were born of their union, seven sons and seven daughters, and thirteen of the number are still living, as follows: John, Lizzie, Polly, Ernest, Edwin, Emma, Paul, Bert, August, Minnie, Herman, Ida and Ralph. A little daughter, Kitty, died at the age of two years and nine months. The mother of this family was called to her final rest May 3, 1893, and in 1896 Mr. Rinker was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Ellen S. Wormley, widow of John Wormley. She is a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of B. Bolhouser.

Throughout his business career Mr. Rinker has carried on agricultural pursuits, and is to-day the owner of a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, all of which is under a high state of cultivation, and yields to the owner a golden tribute in return for the care and labor he bestows upon it. The place is improved with a good residence, two large barns and other substantial outbuildings, and the latest improved machinery facilitates and lightens the farm labor. Mr. Rinker gives his political support to the Republican party, and as every true American citizen should do keeps well informed on the issues of the day. For many years he has held the office of justice

of the peace, discharging his duties in a most creditable manner. He and his family attend the Methodist church and are people of the highest respectability, who enjoy and merit the confidence and regard of their friends and neighbors.

JESSE GROVE.

Jesse Grove, a well-known and influential citizen of Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is a son of Joseph Grove, deceased, one of the early settlers of that township. Joseph Grove was born in Licking county, Ohio, December 28, 1806, a son of John and Barbara (Lineberger) Grove, the former a native of Virginia. The Linebergers were of German origin. In 1829, when a young man of twenty-three years, with a spirit for adventure and a desire to see something of the world, Joseph Grove made the journey on horseback from Ohio to Fort Dearborn (Chicago) and also visited other points in Illinois, and in 1835 he located on the farm in Rutland township where our subject now lives. Here, on the 28th of June, 1838, he married Miss Elma N. Jackson, who was born January 23, 1815, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Jesse Jackson, one of the pioneers of LaSalle county, locating here in 1836. With the passing years sons and daughters to the number of ten came to bless the home of Joseph and Elma N. Grove. Of this number six are still living, as follows: Jesse, the direct subject of this sketch; Lucien J., of Miller township, LaSalle county; Elmira, wife of George Pitzer, of Rutland township, this county; Samantha, wife of Wakefield Apling, of Wichita, Kansas; Mary, wife of H. L. Loring, of Miller township; and Clara E., also of Miller township. The four children deceased were: Minerva, who died in childhood; Jeremiah, a Union soldier, who died during the civil war; David L., who died in South America; and John, who died in Nevada, Boone county, Iowa, leaving a widow and two children. Joseph Grove, the father, died December 28, 1858, at the age of fifty-two years. In the very prime of life his health was broken by exposure and the hardships incident to pioneering. The mother died January 21, 1873, at the age of fifty-eight years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church from her girlhood till the time of her death and her life was of an exemplary Christian character.

Jesse Grove was born on his father's farm in LaSalle county, January 29, 1841. His boyhood was passed in attending the district school and the Ottawa high school, and his adult years have been devoted to agricultural pursuits. The farm on which he resides is located near Wedron Station, six miles northeast of Ottawa, and comprises a valuable tract of three hun-

dred and sixty-eight acres, where he carries on general agriculture, considerable attention being given to a high grade of Durham and Holstein cattle.

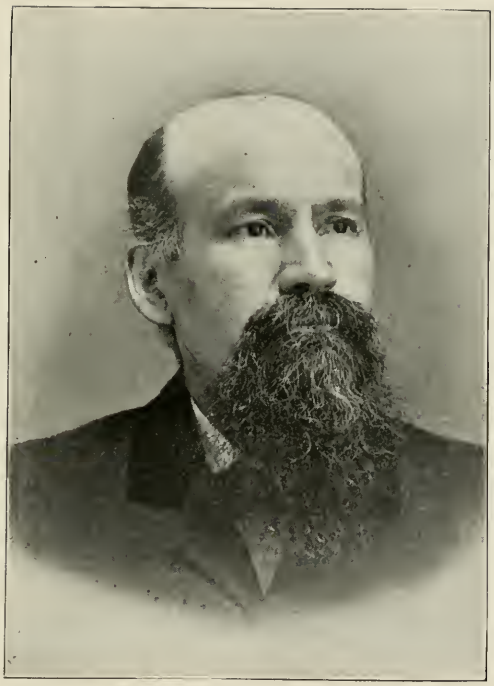
February 15, 1877, Mr. Grove was married to Miss Louise Parr, a native of Manlius township, LaSalle county. She was born May 6, 1850, a daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Parr, early settlers of the county, both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Grove were born two children: Joseph Roy, born May 27, 1878; and Everett, who died at the age of three months. The wife and mother died April 20, 1880, at the age of thirty years. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, was a most estimable woman in every respect, and her early death was a source of sorrow not only to her immediate family but also to a large circle of friends.

Politically Mr. Grove is a Democrat.

DAVID H. SLAGLE.

An honored veteran of the civil war and a faithful employe in the mail service of the nation, David Henry Slagle well deserves mention among the representative citizens of Marseilles. He was born at Delta, Fulton county, Ohio, March 23, 1843, the eldest son of Henry and Caroline Slagle, whose family numbered five children,—three sons and two daughters. The father was a native of Little York, Pennsylvania, and the mother, who bore the maiden name of Caroline Hobart, was born at Pulteney, Steuben county, New York. Their children were Mary, who died in infancy; Elizabeth E., David H., Oscar and James. During the Mexican war Henry Slagle enlisted in the country's service, becoming a member of Company A, Fifth Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Morgan. When the war was ended and the regiment was on the way home, he was taken ill and died in Cincinnati, Ohio, leaving a widow and four children.

David H. Slagle, the subject of this review, after his father's death, was adopted by George Gallaher, a man of strict Presbyterian faith, living near Delta, Ohio. In May, 1851, with Mr. Gallaher he came to Illinois, locating in the vicinity of Marseilles, in Manlius township. He entered school in 1852, pursuing his education in the old log school-house south of the Christian church, on section 3, Manlius township. Among his fellow students at that time was Dwight M. Sabin, afterward United States senator from Minnesota. Mr. Slagle was eighteen years of age at the time of the inauguration of the civil war, and was clerking in the store of William W. Richey, of Marseilles. When the secessionists of the south attempted to drag the flag of the Union in the dust and rend in twain the nation, and men came from work-shop, factory, the counting-room and the office to do battle for the starry banner and the cause it represented, Mr. Slagle also offered his service. With five



David H. Slagle.

or six of his friends, young men, he was the first from the village to enlist in the three-months service, becoming a member of Captain Charles Houghtaling's battery of light artillery, which was organized at Ottawa, Illinois, April 19, 1861. His name was carried on the roll as Henry Slagle.

On the same day the battery left for the war, arriving at Cairo, Illinois, April 22. This organization became Company F, Tenth Illinois Infantry, and during its term of enlistment did service at Cairo. While Mr. Slagle was in the three-months service, Hon. B. C. Cook, a representative in congress, assured Captain Houghtaling that any young man of his company that he would recommend from his battery would be named to the secretary of war for appointment as a cadet at the West Point Military Academy. Mr. Slagle was recommended and strongly urged to accept the appointment, but declined, and a few weeks later, on the 27th of August, 1861, re-entered the service as a member of Company K, Thirty-ninth Regiment, Yates Phalanx, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The company was recruited at Marseilles to serve for three years or during the war and was under command of Captain Joseph Woodruff. Mr. Slagle was promoted to the rank of sergeant at Benton Barracks, Missouri, October 19, 1861, and served for three years, after which he re-enlisted at Hilton Head, South Carolina. His was no temporary loyalty, and throughout the entire struggle he remained at the front, faithfully defending the cause he loved on the battlefields of the south.

In 1862, while the regiment was at Harrison's Landing, Virginia, Mr. Slagle was one of ten detailed from the regiment to return to Illinois on recruiting service. After performing that duty he rejoined his command at Newbern, North Carolina, and soon entered upon the year's campaign in South Carolina. He participated in the battles in front of Charleston, and the regiment then returned to the front of Richmond, where he took part in the many engagements that occurred in that vicinity in the summer of 1864. On the 13th of October of that year the First Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps, made an advance on the works in front of Richmond and executed a notable charge on a line of works at Darbytown Cross Roads. In that charge, while climbing the abattis of the works, Sergeant Slagle was wounded and taken prisoner, and in the same engagement his brother James was wounded, but not captured. His regiment with two hundred and fifty men in line lost seventy. While a prisoner our subject was confined in Castle Thunder prison, just across the street from Libby prison, but being wounded he was held only for a few days, after which he was paroled and sent down the James river to Annapolis, Maryland, to the St. John's College Hospital. In January, 1865, with one hundred and fifty other wounded soldiers, he was placed on board a steamer to be trans-

ferred to the hospital at Baltimore. A steamer usually made the run up the Chesapeake bay in two hours and consequently carried no provisions and but few men to care for the wounded; but on this trip the boat became lodged in the ice in the middle of the bay and was forced to remain there for two days and two nights in the bitter cold of winter. The Eleventh Indiana Infantry, at Baltimore, twenty-seven miles distant, volunteered to rescue the imperiled men, and every soldier on skates and drawing a hand sled made of board went to the steamer, whence they transferred the wounded, on a terribly cold night, to the shore, four miles distant. From Baltimore our subject was sent to Wilmington, Delaware, and on to Philadelphia, where he was discharged from the United States service when orderly sergeant, on account of a severe wound in the joint of the right ankle. This necessitated his use of crutches for nearly a year after his return home, where he arrived in June, 1865.

During the following fall Mr. Slagle attended Bryant & Stratton's Commercial College, at Chicago. On the 6th of March, 1866, he was appointed postmaster at Marseilles, Illinois, the salary being then twenty dollars per month for service, office, fuel and lights. On the 10th of December, 1872, the office became presidential in the character of appointment, and Mr. Slagle was commissioned postmaster by President Grant; January 21, 1878, by President Hayes; and January 30, 1882, by President Arthur, serving until April 1, 1886, when E. Barber became his successor, by an appointment made by President Cleveland. For one year he served as deputy under Mr. Barber, making a continuous service in the office of twenty-one years.

On his retirement he accepted the position of bookkeeper for the firm of Bruce & Barron, bridge contractors, with whom he remained for two years. In February, 1889, he took the United States civil service examination, and on the 5th of June, of that year, received an appointment as railway postal clerk on the Chicago, Dunbar & Dubuque Railway post-office, running between Chicago and Dubuque, Iowa. In February, 1890, he was transferred to the Chicago & West Liberty Railway post-office, running between Chicago and West Liberty, Iowa.

Socially Mr. Slagle has long been a Mason, having become a member of Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M., in 1868. He has been very prominent in the work of the order and has served as treasurer, secretary, warden and master of the lodge. On the 21st of February, 1873, he was exalted to the august degree of Royal Arch Mason in Shabbona Chapter, No. 37; and on the 20th of November, 1873, he received the orders of knighthood in Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, Knights Templar. He was again connected with the military service of the state, when on the 30th of March, 1876, he was commissioned by Governor John L. Beveridge second lieuten-

ant in the Marseilles Light Guards, Third Regiment Illinois National Guards, in which capacity he served until September 21, 1877, when he resigned.

At the organization of Joseph Woodruff Post, No. 281, G. A. R., on the 13th of February, 1874, he was elected officer of the day; in 1887 was elected adjutant; and on the 7th of April, 1895, was elected commander.

In politics he is a stanch Republican, and in June, 1874, he served as a delegate from LaSalle county to the state convention at Springfield. On the 13th of August, 1879, he was a delegate from LaSalle county to the congressional convention at Morris, Illinois. In 1866 he was made clerk of the corporation of the village of Marseilles, in 1867 was clerk of the town of Manlius, and in all these different positions, social, civil, military and political, he has ever been most faithful to the trust and confidence reposed in him.

Mr. Slagle was married October 20, 1864, to Miss Hattie Juckett, of Coldwater, Michigan, who died August 8, 1875, on which date their infant son also passed away. On the 21st of December, 1876, Mr. Slagle was joined in wedlock to Mrs. Lucy M. Fleming, of Marseilles. Their only child, Bessie D., died November 21, 1880, at the age of three years, one month and four days; and the mother's death occurred April 7, 1895. On the 21st of April, 1897, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Slagle and Miss Lillie L. Conkling, the wedding ceremony being performed by the Rev. A. H. Laing, at Joliet, Illinois. The lady is a native of Delphos, Ohio, and a daughter of Dr. Samuel F. Conkling. On the 7th of April, 1898, a son was born to them, David Henry, Jr.

Such in brief is the life history of one of Marseilles' most prominent and esteemed citizens. His life has been an honorable and upright one, and he is to-day as true to his duties of citizenship as when he followed the starry banner upon the battle-fields of the south.

EMANUEL DAVIS.

Numbered among the enterprising, public-spirited citizens of Streator for many years, Mr. Davis has aided many industries which have proved of benefit to the place, and has upheld all movements of progress. Recognized as a man of unusual ability and genius, he has been called upon to occupy various official positions of responsibility and importance, and has ably and conscientiously discharged the duties pertaining to these offices.

Born in the city of Birmingham, England, March 2, 1863, our subject is a son of Joseph and Mary A. (Fellows) Davis, likewise natives of that country, where they have always dwelt. When he was eighteen years of

age, Emanuel Davis began making plans to come to the United States, and took up the trade of mason. In 1882 he arrived in New York city, whence he proceeded to Chicago, where he found plenty of employment. For about one year he worked at the gas-tube foundry, and in 1883 came to Streator. Here he has been busily engaged in contracting and building, undertaking all kinds of brick work and plastering; and many of the dwellings, churches and stores of this place stand as evidences of his skill and handiwork. For several years he was associated with D. L. Thomas as a member of the firm of Davis & Thomas, but this connection was dissolved by mutual consent, and Mr. Davis has carried on the business alone. For six years he was a director of the German Building & Loan Association, after which he was elected president of the Ninth Branch of the Illinois Bureau of the Bricklayers and Masons' International Union, and at present is serving as financial secretary of the organization.

Zealous in the Republican party, Mr. Davis is a political factor of considerable influence in Streator and vicinity, and has been elected twice to the responsible post of alderman, representing the sixth ward in the city council. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen and Foresters of America. In August, 1888, Mr. Davis married Rosalia Aaron, a daughter of James Aaron, of Cornell, Illinois, and two promising sons bless their union, namely: Lincoln Earl and Orville Erwin. They have a pleasant home and many sincere friends here and elsewhere.

JOHN A. HANNA.

A worthy representative of a sterling pioneer family of Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, John A. Hanna was born in Putnam county, this state, January 16, 1856. His father, Joseph M. Hanna, long one of the prominent citizens of this county, was a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, born in 1826, a son of Alexander Hanna, of the same state. During the gold excitement in 1849 he, then an ambitious young man, started on the long and dangerous journey across the plains to California, going by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri rivers to St. Joseph, where the five-months trip overland was begun. Arriving at his destination, he engaged in gold-mining for two years, with fair success, and then returned home by way of the Isthmus of Panama.

An important step in the life of J. M. Hanna was his marriage to Miss Permelia, daughter of John Thompson, of Pennsylvania. She was a devoted helpmate, sharing his joys and sorrows, and now, the most arduous labors of her life completed, she is passing her declining years at her pleasant home

in South Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. Hanna removed to this state in 1853, and, after living in Putnam county for a few years, permanently located in this township. Here he improved a farm, developing wild land into a fertile, well cultivated homestead, and at the time of his death he was the owner of five hundred and sixty acres. He was the president of the Grand Rapids, Brookfield & Fall River Home Insurance Company, a director of the First National Bank of Marseilles, a member of the board of supervisors, and township school treasurer for eighteen years. Industry, patience and indomitable energy were among his chief characteristics, and justice in word and deed marked all of his transactions. He died November 4, 1890, in Colorado, whither he had gone in the hope of benefiting his failing health, and was buried in the cemetery at South Ottawa. His only daughter, Florence, wife of Elwood Peddicord, is deceased, and his second son, Elmer Ellsworth, died in childhood. Irwin I., the youngest, is a successful attorney at law in Ottawa.

In his early years John A. Hanna mastered the details of farming, and was of great assistance to his father in the improvement of the old homestead. After finishing his district school education, he attended the National Normal at Lebanon, Ohio, and then took up the study of law, being admitted to the bar in 1887, at Ottawa, Kansas. For the next two or three years he diligently pursued the practice of his chosen profession, but the death of his father made it necessary for him to return and attend to the settling of the estate and the subsequent management of the farm. He owns three hundred and twenty acres of land here, equipped with excellent residence and barns and all of the modern appliances used in carrying on a well ordered farm. He also owns eight hundred and sixty acres of improved land in eastern Kansas. This land is well stocked with high-grade cattle. He is intelligent and progressive in his ideas on agriculture, as in everything else, and is making a success of his undertakings.

The marriage of J. A. Hanna and Miss Hattie A. Richards was celebrated in this county in 1885. She is a native of Berkshire, Massachusetts, and is a daughter of Alexander and Sophronia A. (Dow) Richards, who came to this county with their family in 1870. Mrs. Hanna was educated in the Ottawa public schools and is a lady of many amiable qualities. Three sons were born to Mr. and Mrs. Hanna, but only one, Roland R., a lad of ten years, survives. Warren R. died when in his second year, and E. Ellsworth in babyhood.

Since he attained the right of franchise Mr. Hanna has given his allegiance to the Republican party. He is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and all religious, educational and charitable enterprises receive his loyal support. His career has been marked by sincerity

and uprightness, and his legal training has given him a keenness of mental grasp and a power of dealing with difficulties which cause him to be looked to as an authority in his section of the county.

THEODORE ROCKENFELLER.

The keynote of success is pluck and persistence in a well-planned course of action, and in reviewing the record of Theodore Rockenfeller, a representative citizen of Streator, it is to be seen that this rule holds good. He stands for progress, for good government, for the best possible educational facilities for the young, for all that tends to uplift and benefit humanity, and thus no eulogy is required in setting forth his history, but the mere presentation of facts.

Though he is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred at Coblentz on the Rhine, in 1852, our subject has no recollection of that land, as he was but three years of age when he was brought to America by his parents. That worthy couple, John M. and Catherine Rockenfeller, had learned much in favor of this country, and wisely decided that they would found a home here, where they might rear their children under the beneficent institutions of the republic. The family landed in New York city after a tedious voyage of seven weeks on a sailing vessel, and continued their westward journey to Peoria, Illinois. At the end of a year they located near Washington, Tazewell county, where their home was made until 1864, and the following eleven years they were residents of Woodford county, Illinois. In 1875 they came to Streator, and here the father is yet living, but the mother died four years ago. They had four children, the older son being killed while employed by the Santa Fe Railroad Company, ten years ago; Hannah is at home, and Elizabeth is the wife of Robert Genseke.

Theodore Rockenfeller received a liberal education in the common and select schools of this state, and for four years was a student in the Northwestern College at Naperville, Illinois. From 1876 to 1884 he was successfully engaged in the mercantile business in Streator, and in the year mentioned was appointed agent for the sale of railroad lands in southern Minnesota along the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway. After he had disposed of a large amount of this property he was made the general agent and manager for the company's lands in that section of the country, succeeding in establishing thousands of families along the line of that road. For ten years he was the immigrant agent for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad. In September, 1898, he was elected to the position of vice-president of the Farmers' Colonization Company, of Chicago, which controls many thousands of acres of desirable farm land in vari-

ous parts of the west. During the fifteen years which Mr. Rockenfeller has devoted to this line of enterprise he has been remarkably fortunate, as he has disposed of over five hundred and seventy-five thousand acres of land, situated chiefly in Illinois, Iowa and southern Minnesota. The incalculable good thus accomplished is not limited to the financial side of the question, but, considered in a broader light, means the opening up of vast territories and fields of usefulness and prosperity in the west, and the placing of thousands of families, many from overcrowded cities of the east, in comfortable homes, where their labor receives its due reward, and poverty and privation become things of the past. In addition to his other interests, Mr. Rockenfeller has extensive investments in mining property. He is president of the Streator & Cripple Creek Gold Mining Company, and the president of the Security Mining & Milling Company, of Omaha, Nebraska.

In affairs affecting the welfare of this state and community our subject takes a patriotic interest. For a period of ten years he served as a member of the Streator board of education, and assisted in the organization of the local Young Men's Christian Association. He is a strong Republican, and socially is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to Camp No. 4. In 1891 he married Miss Louise Holbine, and they have one son, Vernen W. They are members of the First Presbyterian church, Mr. Rockenfeller being one of its trustees.

JOHN COOPER.

Like many other prominent and influential citizens of LaSalle county, Illinois, John Cooper, of Otter Creek township, is a native of Ireland. His parents were Edward and Jane (Coughlin) Cooper, and he was born April 9, 1841, near Belfast. When he was a lad of eight years the family came to America and settled first at Salmon Falls, New Hampshire, where they lived for some time. The father died at the age of forty-five years, leaving the mother with a family of eight children. She still survives him and is now eighty-five years of age. Of their children, John, the subject of this sketch, is the eldest; Mrs. Maria Roberts is a resident of Alden, Indiana; Mrs. Sarah Berry is a resident of Rock Rapids, Iowa; William resides in Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois; Richard was a soldier in the Fifty-third Illinois Regiment during the civil war and died at Vicksburg, Mississippi; Edward is a veteran of the civil war and lives in Streator, Illinois; Mrs. Jane Litts lives in Stuart, Iowa; and Mrs. Lizzie Jones is a resident of Otter Creek township.

John Cooper was reared to farm life, attending the public schools in

winter, his parents having moved to Illinois during his boyhood, and at the time the civil war broke out he was engaged in farm work in this state. In 1862 he enlisted under Captain James J. McKernan, in Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and with his command was on active duty in the south. He participated in the engagements of Hartsville, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge, ever acting the part of a brave and patriotic soldier. During his army life he had the smallpox. In 1865 he was honorably discharged at Camp Douglas, and from Chicago returned to his home in LaSalle county. He remained on the home farm until 1870, when he married. For years he has been ranked with the prosperous farmers of Otter Creek township, his location being near Kernan.

November 10, 1870, Mr. Cooper married Miss Sarah Kirkpatrick, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of James and Margaret Kirkpatrick. Mr. Kirkpatrick died in Philadelphia, at the age of thirty-five years, leaving a widow and one child, the former having died in 1893, at the age of seventy-two years, and the latter is Mrs. Cooper. Mr. and Mrs. Cooper have had six children, viz.: John Edward, at home; Ida Florence, wife of Arthur Harber, of Otter Creek township; R. Frank, of Ottawa, Illinois; Elmer, at home; and Myrtle and Clara, deceased, the former having died at the age of seven years, and the latter at three.

Mr. Cooper is a Republican and a member of Post 68, G. A. R., at Streator.

NATHAN TEAL.

Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, includes among its prosperous farmers Nathan Teal, who has been identified with this county since his early boyhood. He dates his nativity in Dutchess county, New York, January 25, 1848. His father, Edward Teal, a native of Columbia county, New York, was born September 10, 1820; his mother, Susan, who was a daughter of Jacob and Ellen Piester, was born in New York in 1819, and was reared and educated in that state. Edward Teal was a Republican and a man of local prominence. For a period of twenty years he served as justice of the peace, and he also filled several other township offices. He died in LaSalle county, Illinois, January 22, 1896, at the advanced age of seventy-six years. Of the five children born to him and his wife, record is made as follows: Harriet, wife of Thomas Hougas, of Miller township, LaSalle county; Mary J., wife of John Hougas, of Iowa; Anne, wife of Elias Hayer, of this township; Nathan, whose name initiates this sketch; and Morgan A., who resides on section 14, Miller township.

Nathan Teal was a small boy when he was brought by his parents to

Illinois, and in LaSalle county he was reared and educated, his educational advantages being limited to the public schools. Farming has been his life occupation. He is located on a farm of eighty acres near the village of Norway, this farm being a representative one as regards good buildings, well cultivated fields, etc.

In April, 1885, Mr. Teal married Miss Sabina A. Godwin, who was born and reared in Miller township, daughter of John Godwin. John Godwin was a native of Essex county, Ontario, born July 11, 1822, of English descent. He was married in 1844, at Detroit, Michigan, to Anna M. Long, a native of England, who survives him and is now seventy-eight years of age. Mr. Godwin died February 15, 1896, at the age of seventy-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Godwin came to Illinois and settled in Miller township, LaSalle county, in 1851, and here reared their family of ten children, all of whom are still living, namely: Alwilda J., Josephine A., Josiah J., Alvin G., Hattie E., Ammi M., Dan. W., Sabina, Frank and Jessie A. Mr. and Mrs. Teal have one daughter, Myrtle May, born September 29, 1886.

Politically, Mr. Teal is known as an ardent Republican. He has served as justice of the peace for five years, as member of the school board nine years, and as clerk of school elections several times. He and his wife are members of the church of the Latter Day Saints.

DWIGHT LAWRENCE.

The ancestors of Dwight Lawrence, a well known citizen of Ottawa, on both the paternal and maternal lines, were men of sturdy patriotism and worthy of respect in every particular. His father's grandfather, Colonel Bigelow Lawrence, was a hero of the Revolutionary war, and the maternal great-grandfather of our subject, Amasa Farnham, was likewise a soldier in that struggle with our mother country.

The parents of Dwight Lawrence were Jairus and Alice (Farnham) Lawrence. The father was a native of Onondaga county, New York, and held numerous local offices of honor and trust. In political creed he was a Democrat. To himself and estimable wife six children were born, namely: Dwight, Rachel, Lucretia, Jairus, Alice and Fred. The devoted husband and father was summoned to the silent land in 1881, at the ripe age of seventy-one years.

The birth of Dwight Lawrence occurred in Orleans county, New York, February 6, 1833. He grew to maturity and received his education in his native state, learning meanwhile every detail of agriculture. In 1849 he came to Illinois and went into the stock business, devoting much of his time

to the breeding and training of high-grade blooded horses. He owns a fine homestead, known as the Lawrence Stock Farm, in Ophir township, LaSalle county, thirteen and one-half miles from Ottawa. Everything about this place calls forth the admiration and favorable comment of visitors. The barns and feed stables are modern, substantial and well equipped, there are splendid pastures and productive grain and hay fields, an abundance of clear, pure water, and a beautiful hedge over two miles long surrounds the premises. Without question the place is one of the finest and most valuable in the county, and from all parts of the state dealers and buyers come, as to a new Mecca. In connection with this farm the owner runs a livery, sale and feed stable at No. 811 Columbus street, Ottawa, under the firm name of Dwight Lawrence & Son. In the score or more of years that our subject has resided in this vicinity he has made an enviable record for business honesty and enterprise. He is a Democrat and is public-spirited, and actively interested in the general welfare.

The marriage of Mr. Lawrence took place in 1859, his bride being Miss Harriet, daughter of Theron and Margaret, nee Belknap, of Orange county, New York. She died in Ottawa, October 17, 1886, and left one son, Wilbur H., who was born March 1, 1865, and is now engaged in business with his father. He and wife reside on the farm in Ophir township, where he was born. He was married March 15, 1894, to Sadie Stockley, a daughter of Charles Stockley, of Freedom township, LaSalle county, Illinois. Mr. Stockley was a soldier in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion, was captured and suffered the horrors of Andersonville prison.

GEORGE W. BOWERS.

George W. Bowers was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, February 9, 1853, and is of German descent, although several generations of the family have been residents of this country. Christian Bowers, the father of George W., was born in Merland, Virginia. He married Miss May Smetzer, a native of Pennsylvania, and sons and daughters to the number of thirteen were born to them. Of this family eleven are still living, namely: Catherine, Elizabeth, George W., David, Charles, Emma, Edward, Lotta, John, Alice and Dextor. The father was by trade a cooper, at which he worked previous to the civil war, and since then he has lived on a farm. He is now nearing his eightieth milepost marking the years of life, and his good wife is past seventy. Both are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, with which they have long been identified.

George W. Bowers was reared in Fairfield county, Ohio, and received

his education in the public schools. Industry and careful economy in youth and early manhood, continued to the present, have brought him comfort and plenty. In 1884 he purchased his present farm, eighty acres of land, near Norway, in Miller township, LaSalle county, which is well improved and under excellent cultivation.

In March, 1883, Mr. Bowers married Miss Lorinda Knickerbocker, the daughter of James B. Knickerbocker, a well known citizen of this county, and his wife, Catherine (Lattimer) Knickerbocker. Mr. and Mrs. Bowers have six children,—five sons and a daughter, namely: Lester C., Benjamin H., Duncan G., Bessie Belle, Harald Dewey and James N.

Mr. Bowers is a man well informed on all questions of the day, harmonizes with the Republican party, and at this writing is a member of the school board, on which he has served for some time.

RICHARD F. KNOTT.

At the head of one of the infant enterprises of Marseilles, Mr. R. F. Knott has plainly demonstrated his executive and financial ability and his right to be classed with the progressive business men of LaSalle county.

Born about thirty-six years ago, in the city of Mobile, Alabama, Mr. Knott represents two old and highly honored southern families. His father, Richard F. Knott, who was a very successful cotton merchant, was stricken with the dread yellow-fever scourge in 1873, and died when still in his prime. He not only bore an enviable reputation as a business man but also ranked high in the Masonic fraternity, having taken the thirty-third degree, and having occupied the exalted office of first grand commander of the state of Alabama. For his wife he chose Miss Charity Prince, a lady of superior education and social attainments, and five children blessed their marriage.

With his brothers and sisters, R. F. Knott was reared in the sunny southland and received a liberal education. He suffered an irreparable loss when he was about ten years old in the death of his father, but the memory of his judicious counsels and worthy example served as a guiding star through his youth. In 1889 he married Miss Sallie Oliver, daughter of Thomas Oliver, of Birmingham, Alabama, and they have one bright little son, Richard F., Junior, now four years of age.

Coming to Marseilles, Mr. Knott assisted in the organization of the Crescent Paper Company in May, 1896, and has since acted as president of the concern, while J. H. Collough is the secretary and treasurer, and D. Samuels is the superintendent. This company has succeeded in establishing a large and lucrative trade within the past three years, and now affords em-

ployment to a force of more than one hundred people. They manufacture paper box-board, egg cases and crates of various kinds, paper boxes, and other receptacles for shippers' and merchants' supplies. The growing importance of this industry to this town and vicinity is duly acknowledged by its citizens, and it promises to be a still greater factor in the development of commercial enterprises here.

In his political convictions, Mr. Knott is a loyal gold Democrat, and takes great interest in the leading issues of the day. Fraternally he has followed in the footsteps of his father, being identified with the Masonic order, as a Knight Templar of the Ottawa Commandery, No. 10. Both he and his estimable wife are members and regular attendants of the Episcopal church.

WILLIAM H. GOCHANOUR.

An esteemed and honored resident of Otter Creek township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is William H. Gochanour, who was born in Licking county, Ohio, December 20, 1840, the son of Jonathan C. and Lucy (Ritter) Gochanour. The father is a native of Virginia, but has been a resident of LaSalle county since 1844 and is now one of the oldest residents of Otter Creek township. He married Miss Lucy Ritter, the daughter of a southern planter, and they became the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are living, namely: William H., the immediate subject of this review; Mathias, to whom individual reference is made elsewhere in this work; Amanda Larry, a resident of Iowa; Angus, of Cass county, Iowa; James, of Otter Creek township, this county; John, also of this township; Jane Marsh, of Iowa; Ann Johnson, of Otter Creek township, and Edward, also of this township. The mother of these children passed away in 1895, in her sixty-third year.

William H. Gochanour received his educational discipline in the public schools, after leaving which he turned his attention to the farming industry. He is a shrewd business man and has been very successful, having about twenty thousand dollars well invested in this county. He has an extensive apiary, and has found the culture of bees to be not only profitable, but also a pleasure as well. This work has received close attention from him and he has studied to secure the best plans for handling the industrious little workers, thus insuring the largest yield of honey; his methods have resulted in a very successful enterprise in this line.

On the 19th of January, 1862, Mr. Gochanour was united in marriage to Miss Orilla J. Brock, a daughter of Solomon Brock, of this township, and five children have blessed their union, four of whom are living, namely:

W. B. C. Gochanour

Willis Elliott, of this township; Ella Dell, wife of Henry Gebo, of Montana; Orlando Rees, who is married and resides on the home farm; and Elmer Lee, who lives at home. In his political adherency Mr. Gochanour is a Democrat, and he has served for three terms as assessor of his township. This office he accepted at the urgent solicitation of his friends; he has always been averse to accepting any preferment in an official way. He is of genial, social disposition, and is popular with his fellow citizens.

The father of Mrs. Gochanour was among the earliest settlers of Otter Creek township, coming here in 1831 and locating in the midst of the great prairies of Illinois, his house at that time being nine miles distant from any other human habitation. The farm upon which he lived contained six hundred and forty acres, and he was one of the first farmers in this part of the state to do a profitable business in the raising of cattle. In politics he gave his support to the Republican party and its principles. The maiden name of his wife was Jane Moon, and she was a sister of A. B. Moon, an early settler here. The children of Solomon and Jane (Moon) Brock were as follows: Eleanor; Evan, deceased; Rees, who was killed in the battle of Hartsville, in the war of the Rebellion; Philander; Sylvester; Calvin L., for four years a soldier in the civil war; Mary M. Hopple, of Nebraska; Orilla J., wife of the subject of this review; Angeline; and Lily D. Mr. Brock passed away December 25, 1858, aged sixty-two years; and his wife died May 7, 1854, aged forty-four years.

LORENZO LELAND.

The first ancestor of the Leland family in America was Henry Leland, who was born in England, in 1625, married Margaret Badcock, and in 1652 came to America, his death occurring in Sherborn, Massachusetts, April 4, 1680. His fourth child and eldest son, Ebenezer Leland, was born at Sherborn, January 25, 1657, and died in 1742. James, the son of Ebenezer, was born in 1687, married Hannah Learned and died in 1768, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His son Phineas was born in 1731 and died in 1773. Eleazer Leland, son of Phineas, was born in 1755, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, participating in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill. He married Elizabeth Sherman, and his death occurred in Grafton, Massachusetts, in 1827.

Cyrus Leland, the next in direct line of descent, was born in Grafton, Massachusetts, in 1785, and married Betsy Kimball, whose grandfather, Aaron Kimball, was a soldier in the early French and Indian war. When hostilities commenced that resulted in the establishment of the republic,

he was commissioned captain of a company in the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry, his commission being dated April 5, 1776. His son, the father of Betsy Kimball, was captain of a company in the regiment commanded by Colonel Wheelock. Cyrus Leland died in Grafton, Massachusetts, in 1831.

Lorenzo Leland, second son of Cyrus, was born in Grafton, Massachusetts, September 14, 1813, and married Martha Holbrook, who was also a native of Grafton. In 1834 he came west, locating in Peoria, Illinois, where he remained for one year. In 1835 he came to Ottawa, being the second lawyer to locate in this city. He was appointed clerk of the circuit court in 1842, by John D. Caton, which position he held until 1848, when he was elected clerk of the supreme court of the northern district of Illinois. He held that office until 1866, his service covering eighteen years, while for six additional years he was clerk of the circuit court. He gave his support to the Democracy and was an active factor in politics, carrying his district at times against great odds. He died in August, 1881, when almost sixty-eight years of age, respected and honored by all.

Lorenzo Leland, whose name heads this sketch, was born in Ottawa, Illinois, October 17, 1852. He attended the public schools of this city and was graduated from the high school. He was studious by nature, and determined to follow in the footsteps of his father in the choice of a profession. He graduated at Phillips Academy, at Andover, Massachusetts, in 1870, and the same year entered Yale College, graduating there in 1874. Returning to his native city he commenced the study of law, and in 1876, upon examination before the supreme court of Illinois, was admitted to the bar. Immediately thereafter he went to El Dorado, Kansas, where, in company with his brother, Cyrus A., he practiced his profession until 1880. He then returned to Ottawa and opened an office in this city, continuing in active practice until a few years ago, when other business matters demanded his entire attention. He has been intimately identified with the various financial institutions of the city and has given much study to the subject of finance. He is the attorney and treasurer of the Ottawa Building, Homestead & Savings Association, and that institution owes much of its prosperity to his care and attention. He was elected a director of the First National Bank several years ago and in 1894 was chosen the president of that institution and continues to hold that position. He is the secretary of the Ottawa Hydraulic Company and a director of the Ottawa Railway Light & Power Company, besides being extensively interested in real estate in and around Ottawa.

On the 9th of October, 1878, Mr. Leland was united in marriage to Miss Fannie C. Hamilton, a daughter of H. M. and Kate (White) Hamilton. Her father was born in the north of Ireland and was of Scotch-Irish descent.

In early life he came to America, locating in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he was married. In 1854 he came to Ottawa. He was a contractor and builder, but later, in company with S. E. King, engaged in the hardware business in this city. In 1866, as a partner of William Gilman and S. E. King, he commenced manufacturing corn-shellers, and later extended their field of labor by manufacturing other implements and machinery until their factory became one of the most important manufactories of Ottawa. Mr. Hamilton served for a number of years as president of the First National Bank of Ottawa. He has a beautiful home in Pasadena, California, where he now resides. To Mr. and Mrs. Leland one child has been born, Hugh H., whose birth occurred September 22, 1880, and who is now a student in Lake Forest University.

Mr. Leland has always taken a lively interest in all athletic sports, and when at Yale was a member of the base-ball nine. He is ever ready to devote his time and means to promote the cause of education or any movement which has for its object the welfare of the city or county in which he lives.

JOEL W. ELLIS.

For almost thirty years Joel W. Ellis has been known as one of the most public-spirited citizens of Seneca, LaSalle county, and unquestionably ranks with the leading business men of this flourishing town. He is deservedly popular with all classes, rich and poor, farmer, mechanic or business man, and in the transaction of his affairs he maintains the utmost fairness and justice toward everyone.

His father, Joel C. Ellis, was a native of Vermont, born in 1814, and at the time of his death he was in his prime, being but forty years of age. His wife, our subject's mother, a Miss Mary Hunt in her girlhood, was born in Connecticut, a daughter of J. Hunt. She is still living, now in her eighty-fifth year, and makes her home with her younger son, William H., of Rathbun, Iowa. Her only daughter, Ella, is married and is a resident of Kansas City, Kansas.

The birth of Joel W. Ellis occurred in Waterford, Pennsylvania, January 19, 1844, and he was but ten years of age at the time of his father's death, which event took place at Morris, Illinois, where the family had been living for several years. But six months old when he was brought to this state, Mr. Ellis has been thoroughly identified with its progress from his earliest recollections, and is proud of the rapid strides it has made toward everything which is desirable in a commonwealth, within the half-century just ending. After he had left school he took a position as a clerk in the post-office, his

superior being George Fisher, and later he was employed in the post-office at Morris, under Postmaster Edward Hanna.

In August, 1861, when but seventeen and a half years old, J. W. Ellis enlisted as a private in Company G, Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry, his captain being I. W. Parkhurst, and his colonel N. Greusel. The regiment was at first encamped at Aurora, and our subject was detailed as a mail messenger. Soon ordered to the front, he participated in numerous engagements and battles with the Confederates, including Atlanta, Georgia; Columbus and Nashville. Serving faithfully at his post of duty until the close of the war, four years and two months from the date of his enlistment, he was mustered out and honorably discharged, in October, 1865.

After having given to his country some of the best years of his early manhood, Mr. Ellis took up the burden of life again on his own account. In 1869 he removed to Hennepin, Illinois. In 1872 he came to Seneca, and for sixteen years conducted a lumber business. Ten years after his arrival here he bought a stock of hardware and farm machinery and implements, and his business in this line increased so rapidly and gratifyingly that he disposed of his lumber yard in 1888, and since that time has given his entire attention to the other trade. He keeps a large and finely selected stock of goods, and controls the greater portion of the business in his line in this locality.

In 1890 he was appointed as post-master of Seneca, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of D. H. Underhill, and served for eighteen months; and in November, 1897, President McKinley appointed him to the postmastership here. On New Year's day, 1898, he entered upon his new duties, and is still officiating with the promptness and fidelity and the unfailing courtesy which have made many friends for him. He is a Republican, "true blue," and fraternally belongs to Seneca Post, No. 324, G. A. R.; Manlius Lodge, No. 491, I. O. O. F., and to Logan Camp, No. 1212, Modern Woodmen of America.

In October, 1868, Mr. Ellis married Miss T. E. Strong, of Morris, Illinois, and their union is blessed with five children, namely: Estelle, Edna M., Elmer, Tracy W., and Hilda. Mrs. Ellis is a daughter of S. S. and Temperance Strong, in their day well known citizens of Morris, Illinois.

G. L. HAYER.

G. L. Hayer, one of the prominent farmers of LaSalle county, has long been a resident of Miller township, near Stavanger. He was born in the state of Iowa, November 12, 1848, and is a son of Austin and Elizabeth (Jacobs) Hayer and a grandson of Lars Hayer. His father was a native of

Norway and was a member of the colony founded by the Norsemen in Rock county, Wisconsin. From that state he moved into Iowa and settled in Lee county. Here he met Miss Elizabeth Jacobs, who also was a native of the Norseland, but had been reared and educated on this side of the ocean. Their acquaintance ripened into love and culminated in their marriage, but their wedded life was to be of short duration. Two children were born to them,—G. L. and Lars A. The latter died in infancy and in 1850, when our subject was but two years of age the mother was called to the better land. The father took a second wife in the person of Miss Annie Danielson and by her had six children, only three of whom are now living, viz.: Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Oleson, of Grundy county, Illinois; Emma, wife of Charles Wiley, of Polk county, Missouri; and Electa, wife of H. Hoie, of Miller township. The father was an elder in the church of the Latter Day Saints and also took an active interest in the Republican party. His death occurred March 9, 1896, at the age of seventy years.

G. L. Hayer was educated in the public schools and helped his father with such chores as a lad could do. As he grew older he took a more active part in the work and became a good farmer and one who adopted the more progressive method of work, and is now one of the substantial agriculturists of LaSalle county. When twenty-one years of age he was married to Miss Malina Hagland, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Thosten and Bertha Hagland. Her parents came to the United States, settling in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where she was educated and grew to young womanhood. Six children blessed their union, two of whom have been taken to blossom in the garden of the blessed Redeemer,—little Minnie Theresa, who lived but four short years, and an infant that died unnamed; Albert Elias resides with his parents; Bertha is the wife of Oscar Johnson, of this neighborhood; Zenas Milton and Walter T. Mr. and Mrs. Hayer are members of the church of the Latter Day Saints and are worthy Christian people. He has always supported the Republican party, but devotes little time to politics, as his time is fully occupied with looking after his personal interests.

EDWIN T. READ.

For more than forty years Edwin T. Read has resided upon his present farm in Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, and is numbered among the pioneer settlers of 1854. Great changes have occurred since his arrival and the county has made wonderful progress and advancement along educational, commercial and agricultural lines. In the latter department Mr.

Read has been especially active and is a recognized factor in public affairs in his locality.

A native of the Empire state, Mr. Read was born in Chautauqua county, New York, near Jamestown, December 25, 1832. His father, Thomas Read, was born in Washington county, New York, in 1801, and was a son of Rev. M. Read, a Methodist minister. He was reared and educated in New York, and there married Miss Eliza Ferguson, a native of western New York. Their union was blessed with eleven children, nine sons and two daughters: Edwin T.; Frank, who was a member of Company A, Fifty-third Illinois Infantry and lost an arm and leg while fighting for his country at Jackson, Mississippi, and died of the wounds; Henry, who was a member of the Ninth New York Cavalry in the war of the Rebellion, died at Alexandria, Virginia; Harriet, died in Ford county, Illinois; Helen, who resides also in Ford county; Thomas, John B., William T., Charles M., and Arba D. are all residents of that county; and Emmett died in LaSalle county, at the age of eighteen years. The father died in western New York, in July, 1862, leaving the mother with her eleven children to support. He had at one time been a man of considerable means, but through the failure of a railroad enterprise he lost greatly and his widow paid three thousand dollars' security debts. By careful management and earnest toil, however, Mrs. Read managed to keep her children together and provide a comfortable home for them, ever fulfilling every obligation of a faithful mother. She taught them to live upright, honorable lives, and early instilled into their minds habits of industry and economy, thus preparing them for the practical duties of their later years. She died October 19, 1878, at the home of our subject, when sixty-six years of age, and was laid to rest in the Grand Ridge cemetery. She held membership in the Methodist church, and hers was an earnest Christian life.

Edwin T. Read was reared on the old family homestead in New York. His educational privileges were somewhat limited, for he was the eldest son and his services were needed on the farm. In the fall of 1854 he came to the west and purchased eighty acres of land in Grand Rapids township, the purchase price being ten dollars per acre. Two years later he broke the raw prairie and taking up his abode upon the place continued its development and cultivation. Soon abundant harvests rewarded his labors and in course of time he became the owner of one of the most desirable farms of the locality. As a companion and helpmeet on life's journey he chose Miss Helen E. Ebersol, the marriage being celebrated March 15, 1860. The lady was born in Grand Rapids township, LaSalle county, and is a daughter of Joseph Ebersol, a pioneer settler who came to the county from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1834. He died February 13, 1873, at the age of

eighty-two years, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Shuey, departed this life February 26, 1871, at the age of seventy-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Ebersol were the parents of six children, three of whom are now living: Mrs. George Rugg, of Ottawa, Illinois; A. H., who was a soldier in the civil war and is now residing in Englewood, Illinois; and Mrs. Read. Those deceased are D. F., A. M. and Mrs. Catharine Budd.

Mr. and Mrs. Read began their domestic life in a small frame house, which is now used by tenants. In 1885 their first home was replaced by a commodious modern residence, in the rear of which stand large barns and other necessary outbuildings, which provide good shelter for grain and stock. Everything about the place is neat and thrifty in appearance, giving evidence of the careful supervision of the owner, and the house indicates the watchful care of Mrs. Read. This worthy couple have an adopted son, Frank E., who married Bertha Katz, of Ransom, Illinois, by whom he has a son, Edwin T., named in honor of our subject.

Mr. Read is a stanch advocate of Republican principles and is a recognized leader in the party ranks, doing all in his power to promote its growth and insure its success. For some years he has served as supervisor, and has discharged his duties in a most commendable manner. Socially he is a Mason, belonging to Marseilles Lodge, No. 417, A. F. & A. M., at Marseilles; Shabbona Chapter, No. 37, R. A. M., and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, K. T. From his boyhood he has been accustomed to earnest toil and to his own labors may be attributed his success. Energy and perseverance are the salient points in his career and have brought to him a comfortable competence.

GEORGE HAYWARD.

George Hayward was born in Ottawa, LaSalle county, Illinois, April 19, 1843, and by close application and industry has accumulated a competency which will enable him to pass the remainder of his life in comfort and affluence. He is a son of Charles and Julia Ann (Mason) Hayward, who came to this county from the east early in this century. The family tree of the Haywards was deep-rooted in Scotland, whence one Caleb Hayward emigrated to America, settling at Braintree, Massachusetts, and moving later to Lebanon, Connecticut, where he passed the remainder of his life. The paternal grandfather, John Henry Hayward, was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, and on February 3, 1790, was married to Eunice Hutchison. They reared a family of seven sons and four daughters, and September 11, 1826, the grandfather entered his long sleep. One of the sons was Charles Hayward, who was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, April 8, 1808, and there

grew to manhood. October 8, 1838, he was joined in marriage with Miss Julia Ann Mason, who was born in Cortland county, New York, July 22, 1819. Her parents were Oliver and Sarah (Thayer) Mason, both natives of Vermont, who came to Illinois in 1837 and settled in Kane county. Oliver Mason fought in the war of 1812. After their marriage Charles Hayward and wife moved to Ottawa, Illinois, where he built the Fox River House, which he kept for a few years, being also interested in merchandising. He sold his interests and moved to his farm in 1847. There his death occurred, on the 20th of July, 1849. He carried on farming operations during this entire period. Three children survived him: Estelle J.; George, our subject; and Emma, who married David Grove, a retired farmer residing in Ottawa. After the death of her husband Mrs. Hayward was again married, being united to Captain Henry J. Reed, a soldier in the Mexican war and captain of Company I during the civil war. They took up their residence in Ottawa, where they resided during the remainder of their lives. One son was born to them, Charles H., who died in 1876 at the age of twenty-two years. Mrs. Reed died April 3, 1890, and Mr. Reed passed away May 25, 1894.

George Hayward spent his boyhood upon his father's farm and attended the district school in the town of Ottawa. He remained with his parents until the death of his father, when the management of the farm fell to him. He continued to farm, adding gradually to his land, until his present possessions amount to seven hundred acres in Dayton township, in addition to which he owns some valuable city property. In 1870 he retired to Ottawa and has since busied himself in looking after his various business interests and supervising the management of his farm.

He was married June 17, 1875, to Miss Nettie Stickland, a daughter of Rial Stickland of this city. They have three children, Edith E., Mabel S., a student in the high school, and Charles De Alton. Mr. Hayward is a Republican and has served as township director. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman whom it is a pleasure to meet, and is a man of strong personality and warm attachments.

GEORGE W. ROBERTS.

The subject of this review, who is now retired from active business pursuits, is one of the substantial and influential men of LaSalle county, Illinois, and for many years has been an honored and esteemed resident of Ottawa. He was born January 27, 1829, in Luzerne (now Wyoming) county, Pennsylvania, and is a son of Moris and Susan (Newman) Roberts. Moris Roberts was born in the state of New York, but moved with his

parents to Pennsylvania, and there grew to manhood and engaged in agriculture. He was married to Miss Susan Newman, a native of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Caleb and Emily (Reynolds) Newman, whose forefathers were early settlers of the state of Rhode Island. Eleven children were born of this marriage, ten of whom reached adult years, and it is a remarkable fact that five of them served in the war of the Rebellion. Those who attained maturity were as follows: Clarentine, deceased; L. B., deceased; George W., our subject; Adaline, deceased; Benjamin F., a member of the Eighteenth Illinois Infantry, was commissioned lieutenant and died in Kansas, in 1895; Daniel, now of Ottawa, was a member of the Twentieth Ohio; John L. was a member of the Eighteenth Illinois, moved to Kansas, where he died, near Great Bend; Edward H., the Ottawa baker, was also a member of the Twentieth Ohio; Giles H., a partner in the bakery, was a member of Captain Kimball's company in the Ninety-sixth Ohio; and Moris B., also a resident of Ottawa. The grandfather, Samuel Roberts, was born in New York and married Sarah Morehouse, but the origin of the Roberts family was in Wales, whence three brothers emigrated to America, and from them have sprung the various branches of the family in this country.

George W. Roberts went with his parents to Delaware county, Ohio, when about ten years of age, living near Sunbury, where he attended district schools, and later he entered Central College, in Franklin county, that state, pursuing his studies there for some time. He then taught country schools during the winter, farming in the summers, and in this way his time was spent in an industrious and profitable manner until 1855, when he came to LaSalle county and accepted a position as clerk in the store of G. L. Thompson, the leading druggist of Ottawa. After remaining there for some months he formed a partnership with Louis Hess, under the firm name of Roberts & Hess, and conducted a bakery and confectionery store for six years. He then sold out to Mr. Hess and remained out of business eight years. On March 1, 1877, he and his brother Daniel opened a bakery and confectionery, and soon built up a profitable business. In connection with this they established a lunch room, which was well patronized and proved a paying investment. This partnership was continued until 1898, when George sold his interest in the firm to his brother Giles H., and it was continued under the old name of Roberts Brothers, our subject retiring permanently from active business life.

In 1858 Mr. Roberts led to the altar Martha E. McIntosh, of this county, whose parents, Daniel and Henrietta (Crouch) McIntosh, at that time resided near Crawfordsville, Indiana. She is a most excellent woman and has been a constant inspiration and strength to her husband. Four

children have been born to them, namely: Elma, who married H. A. Stanard and died in February, 1888, leaving three children; Eliza E., who resides at home; Alice; and Susan B., who has been employed for several years as teacher in the Ottawa schools. The family are members of the Congregational church and are held in high esteem. Fraternally Mr. Roberts is a member of the Legion of Honor and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

JOHN M. THOMPSON.

John M. Thompson, of Rutland township, LaSalle county, Illinois, is one of the prosperous, substantial farmers of the county and a lifelong resident here. His parents are Thomas M. and Sarah C. (Mason) Thompson. His father was a native of Bergen, Norway, having been born there some sixty-nine years ago and there spent the earlier years of his life. At the age of thirteen he came to America with his parents, who settled in Mission township, this county, where they resided many years. On January 24, 1855, he was united in matrimony with Miss Sarah C. Mason. She was a daughter of Jacob and Charlotte (Dart) Mason, the former of whom reached his eightieth year, dying in 1889, the latter in 1898, in LaSalle county. Twelve children were born to Thomas Thompson and wife,—six sons and six daughters,—ten of whom are now living, viz.: John M., our subject; Mary Maria (Mrs. J. Tilden); Huldah Jane (Mrs. A. Richardson); Edgar and Edward, twins; Charlotte (Mrs. John Benson); Tork W.; Etta (Mrs. George DeBolt); Josie (Mrs. S. Solvin); and Ella, who resides at home. Mr. Thompson now has some sixty-four living descendants and the name is an honored one wherever known. He was an adherent of the Democracy and a man of strict integrity. He departed this life May 29, 1895.

John M. Thompson was educated and reared to manhood in Mission township. He had a natural aptitude for agricultural pursuits even in boyhood and has since made that calling his own, meeting with such success as is attained only by the few. He has a beautiful home, the residence a fine modern structure, built for convenience and symmetry, barns large and commodious, spacious granaries, while an orchard of various kinds of fruit furnishes an abundant yield of toothsome dainties that would tempt an epicure. He has four hundred acres of land which is under high cultivation, the broad fragrant meadows and well tended fields making a pleasing picture to the eyes of the casual observer. He has reduced farming to a science and has introduced many modern methods in his work that have proved of great value to the farming element.

Mr. Thompson chose as his partner through life, Miss Ida M. Bruner, to

whom he was united September 10, 1885. Three children have blessed this union: Ora B., who was born August 14, 1886; Lillian, born August 30, 1888; and Libbie Hazel, born December 8, 1893. Their home is a social center and a cordial welcome is ever accorded the guest, while their popularity and the high esteem in which they are held is equaled only by their genial manner and sterling worth. The parents of Mrs. Thompson were Franklin and Elizabeth (Brumbach) Bruner, the former a native of Virginia. Elizabeth Brumbach was the first white child born in Rutland township, her birth occurring February 13, 1830. He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Ellen Conard, who died leaving him four children: John Calvin; Nelson, of Buckley, Illinois; George Wesley; and Emma. He then place at the head of his household Miss Elizabeth Brumbach, who bore him but one child, who is the wife of Mr. Thompson. Mr. Bruner died in 1871, in his fiftieth year, and was survived by his wife until October, 1896, when she had attained her sixty-sixth year.

OSCAR H. JOHNSON.

Oscar H. Johnson, of Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born and reared in this county. He is a son of Henry and Ellen (Olsen) Johnson, the former of whom was born in Norway in 1835, and, with his brother Andrew, the father of Judge Johnson, of Ottawa, came to the United States. He was married in Miller township, this county, to Miss Ellen Olsen. Her parents were Austin and Caroline (Hayer) Oleson, and they resided for many years in this county with their family of five children. These children are: Lewis, a resident of Missouri; Mary Weld, of Lamoni, Iowa; Ole Oleson, of Lamoni; Ellen Johnson, and Anna Lewis, of DeKalb county, Missouri. Mr. Oleson died while yet a young man, and his widow married for her second husband A. B. Anderson, by whom she had four children: Austin; Martha, deceased; Erickson, of this township; and Benjamin, of Ottawa. The marriage of Henry Johnson and Ellen Oleson was honored in the birth of nine children, of whom six are deceased. Two died in infancy; Elias had reached his thirtieth year ere death claimed him, and three daughters,—Maggie, Bertha and Emma,—had known but twenty summers when they were called to the better land. Three children have been spared them, viz.: Caroline, wife of Andrew Varland, of Rutland township; Hattie, wife of Andrew Lewis, of DeKalb county, Missouri; and Oscar, our subject. The father died at the age of fifty-seven years. Politically he acted with the Republican party.

Oscar H. Johnson was educated in this county, where he grew to man-

hood, and has since made his home. He was married December 16, 1897, to Miss Bertha Hayer, who was born in this township, and is a daughter of Goodman and Malina (Hagland) Hayer. Mr. Johnson has a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is well cultivated and improved with neat, substantial barns and a modern residence. He is a Republican in politics, and both himself and wife are members of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

ISAAC GAGE.

When a sturdy band of pioneers were opening up LaSalle county to the influences of civilization Isaac Gage came to the county and cast in his lot with the early settlers. He faithfully bore his part in the work of progress and development, aided in transforming the wild land into rich farms, assisted in organizing the township and establishing civil authority, and in many other ways left the impress of his individuality upon the growth and improvement of this section of the state. He was ever a respected citizen, and his record deserves a place on the pages of the history of his adopted county.

Mr. Gage was born in Orford, Grafton county, New Hampshire, November 7, 1815, his parents being Isaac and Ruth (Stone) Gage. They were born, reared and married in Massachusetts, and soon after their marriage removed to Orford, where they spent their remaining days. Upon the home farm Isaac Gage spent the days of his boyhood and when old enough he began to assist his father, who was a stone-mason and took contracts for building bridges, walls and other stone structures. He became a resident of Illinois in 1837, in which year he accompanied his uncle, Aaron Gage, to Chicago. On the 10th of July of the same year he arrived in Ottawa and soon obtained a situation with Levi Jennings, Jr., with whom he lived for several years, when he established a home of his own.

On the 1st of January, 1845, Mr. Gage was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Little, a native of Grafton county, New Hampshire, and a daughter of James and Polly Little, who were early settlers of Eden township, LaSalle county, dating their residence here from the fall of 1839. Mr. and Mrs. Gage began their domestic life upon the farm which has since been their home, and four children came to bless their union: Louisa C., wife of S. T. Osgood, of Marseilles; Harriet E., widow of Dr. R. N. Baughman; Ida A., who became the wife of J. S. Batkin, and died December 23, 1884; and B. Frank.

Throughout his active business career Mr. Gage carried on agricultural pursuits, and was a most practical, progressive and enterprising farmer. His thrift and industry were attended with success, and his prosperity enabled

Isaac Gage

him to replace the little house in which he first lived by a spacious and pleasant residence, and to extend the boundaries of his farm until it comprised four hundred and eighty acres of richly cultivated land. He also owned an additional quarter section elsewhere in Brookfield township, LaSalle county, and had some valuable real estate in Marseilles. His business affairs were prosecuted with great energy and characterized by the strictest honesty.

Mr. Gage cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison in 1840 and voted with the Whig party until its dissolution, when he joined the ranks of the new Republican party and was one of its stalwart advocates until his death. He assisted in the organization of Brookfield township, was its first assessor and held various other offices of trust and responsibility, discharging his duties with marked faithfulness. His was an honorable, upright and useful life, and in his death, which occurred February 11, 1886, the community lost one of its valued citizens and esteemed pioneers.

WILLIAM P. REES.

Situated upon the southern bank of the Illinois river, at Ottawa, is the pleasant, modern home of William P. Rees, who is one of the esteemed citizens of LaSalle county, his residence here dating from 1852. His beautiful home commands a fine view of Ottawa and the surrounding country, and he takes great pride in keeping everything about the house and grounds in excellent condition.

The Rees family originated in Wales, our subject's great-grandfather being a native of that country. The grandfather, Jonathan Rees, was born in Ohio, whence he removed to Kentucky, and in that state Albert G., the father of William P. Rees, was born, in 1801. He grew to manhood there and a number of years after his marriage to Caroline Helm, a native of the same state, he removed to Illinois. At first he dwelt in Ottawa township, on a farm, later locating on a homestead, which he purchased, in Grand Rapids township. This tract, comprising three hundred and twenty acres, was wild prairie land at the time that he became its owner, and he was obliged to break the ground and expend much energy in placing it under cultivation. In the course of time he had a splendid farm, on which were substantial buildings, fences and other improvements. He took an active part in the affairs of his community, and enjoyed the love and respect of his neighbors and associates. He was summoned to the silent land in 1881, having survived his wife only two years. Three of their children are living, two sons and a daughter.

William P. Rees, whose birth occurred upon a farm in Mason county, Kentucky, January 21, 1831, spent his youth in that state, and then gained a common-school education. In November, 1851, he came to Illinois, to investigate some of the possibilities and prospects of the state, and being pleased with LaSalle county decided to make his future home here. His parents and the rest of the family came here in the following spring, and he continued to live with them until his marriage, March 26, 1856. After that event he settled on a homestead in Grand Rapids township, and carried on general farming and stock-raising. He remained on this farm for many years, and gradually increased its value by care and cultivation. The place, comprising two hundred acres, is still owned by him, and he now rents it to responsible tenants. In 1875 he retired from active life, and since that time has made his home in Ottawa.

Mr. Rees has been twice married, his first wife having been Miss Sarah Ann Robinson, a daughter of Ephraim and Christiann Robinson. This marriage took place in 1856, and six children were born to them, five of whom died in infancy. The one surviving is Minnie E., now the wife of William I. Mohr, of Ottawa, and she is the mother of three interesting children. Mrs. Rees passed to her reward November 6, 1893, and on the 17th of September, 1896, Mr. Rees married Miss Martha Ann Newburn, a daughter of William and Leah (Harley) Newburn. They had one child, Ruth M., born May 17, 1899.

For a number of years Mr. Rees has been a member of the First Presbyterian church of Ottawa, and at present he is serving in the capacity of an elder in the congregation. In his political views he is a Democrat, and takes an active interest in the welfare of the community, state and county in which his lot is cast.

LORENZO HAYER.

Owning and occupying a nice farm and a pleasant rural home on section 16, Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, not far distant from the little town of Danway, is found the subject of this review, Lorenzo Hayer.

Mr. Hayer was born and reared in the township in which he lives, the date of his birth being July 14, 1853, and is a son of Norwegian parents. Hans Hayer, his father, was born in Norway, July 28, 1822, and in his early manhood came to America, settling first in Rock county, Wisconsin, in 1842, where he remained two years, until 1844. That year he came to Illinois and took up his abode in LaSalle county. Here, in the year 1849, he was married to Miss Sarah Elefson, who was born January 13, 1831.

They lived on a farm in LaSalle county until 1885, and reared their family here. Since 1894 they have been residents of Iowa. They are the parents of five children, four daughters and a son, viz.: Lorenzo; Julia, wife of M. J. Danielson, of Lamoni, Iowa; Ellen; Sarah, wife of W. E. Hougas, of Iowa; and Carrie.

Lorenzo Hayer was reared to farm life and has never been engaged in any other business. His present farm on section 16, above referred to, comprises one hundred and forty acres. It has a good residence and other farm buildings and is among the desirable farms of the locality.

Mr. Hayer was married March 17, 1881, to Miss Bertha Danielson, at Earlville, this county. Mrs. Hayer is a daughter of Christopher and Ann Danielson, early settlers of LaSalle county. Their family comprises nine children, namely: M. J., D. C., Bertha, O. M., Ida, E. A., D. N., Mary Gaard and Joseph. Mr. and Mrs. Hayer have four children—Minnie E., Lida, Andentia and Vernie.

Mr. Hayer is a Republican, and is now serving his district as school trustee. He and his family are members of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

B. FRANK GAGE.

On the old family homestead of the Gage family the subject of this sketch was born, March 30, 1858, his parents being Isaac and Lucy Gage. His father was one of the honored pioneer settlers of the county and for many years was numbered among the leading farmers of this section of Illinois. He was born in Grafton county, New Hampshire, November 7, 1815, and in 1837, when twenty-two years of age, he determined to try his fortune in the then far west. Accordingly he made his way to Illinois, casting in his lot with the early settlers of LaSalle county during the formative period of its development. Throughout his life he devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits, and so capably managed his business interests that he became one of the extensive land-owners of the community, his possessions aggregating one thousand acres, partly in LaSalle county and partly in northeastern Iowa. Here Mr. Gage was united in marriage to Miss Lucy Little, a native of New Hampshire and a daughter of James Little, who came to this county at an early day. The young couple began their domestic life on the farm in Brookfield township, which is now the home of our subject, and there they reared their family of four children, named as follows: Louisa C., wife of S. T. Osgood, of Marseilles; Mrs. H. E. Baughman, of Marseilles; Mrs. Ida Atkin, who is deceased; and B. Frank. The father exercised his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of

the Republican party and for a number of years acceptably served his township as supervisor. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, he was a director in the National Bank at Marseilles, and his reputation was that of a reliable and substantial business man. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, and both died when seventy years of age.

B. F. Gage spent his childhood and youth on the old home farm midst play and work. He attended the public schools of Marseilles, acquiring a good practical education, and was trained to habits of industry and perseverance in the fields. He is now living on the old family homestead, which comprises four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation. He has a high-grade stock farm and is known throughout this section of Illinois for the excellence of his cattle. The improvements on his place are many and modern, consisting of a pleasant and commodious residence, substantial barns, good fences and the latest improved machinery.

In 1885 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Gage and Miss Cornelia V. Carr, a native of LaSalle county and a daughter of Nathan Carr, now deceased. Her father was a prominent farmer in Brookfield township, where her mother still resides. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Gage has been blessed with four children: Ida A., Carrie L., Lawrence and an infant son. Mr. Gage is a Republican in his political faith and is deeply interested in the growth and success of his party, but has never sought office. Like his father, he is a director in the National Bank of Marseilles, and it is such substantial stockholders that have made the institution one of the most reliable financial concerns in the state. In manner he is cordial and courteous, and has gained a large circle of friends, including many who have known him since his boyhood days.

WILLIAM V. S. ANNIN.

A valued citizen of Marseilles is the gentleman of whom this sketch is penned, his residence here dating back almost a score of years. In tracing his lineage it is found that he comes from honored old New Jersey families, and that in him are united two quite distinct nationalities, the Scotch and the Holland-Dutch, both noted for integrity, industry and thrift, for a high sense of honor and for patriotism and many other of the noblest qualities which animate mankind.

John Annin, who was born in Scotland, was the founder of the Annin family in New Jersey. One of his descendants was Jonathan Annin, of Liberty Corner, Somerset county, New Jersey, and one of the latter's children was Joseph S., the father of our subject. He was a soldier in the war

of 1812, and was a merchant by occupation. He married Miss Ellen Schenck, a daughter of Ferdinand Schenck, of Dutch ancestry. Mr. Schenck was a successful agriculturist in New Jersey for many years.

William V. S. Annin was born in Millstone, Somerset county, New Jersey, November 28, 1827, and in his boyhood received a liberal education. He remained under the parental roof until he reached his majority, and in 1849, during the great gold excitement on the Pacific coast, he sailed for California, going around Cape Horn. He was not very favorably impressed with the west nor the prospects of acquiring a fortune, and the following year he returned to New York city. At New Brunswick, New Jersey, he embarked in a mercantile business, which occupied his time and attention for twenty years. In 1870 he concluded to come to Illinois, and, locating found employment with the Marseilles Manufacturing rge of the store of supplies, bolts, screws, and similar d to act in this position year after year, winning the will of all associated in business with him, and only d him to abandon his post of duty, recently.

ick residence of the Annin family is located on West mable lady who presides over the well-being of the ly Miss Harriet M. Plummer, her marriage to Mr. d in Brooklyn, New York, June 2, 1858. She was city, and is the only daughter of Roswell and Harriet r, who were natives of Vermont, but who after their lyn. Seven children blessed the union of our subject Roswell P. is now a resident of Los Angeles, Cali- e wife of Howard M. Weirick, of Phoenix, Arizona; E. R. Spencer, of Marseilles; William S. is living in Mary T. is the wife of Walter Hobart, of Marseilles; e W. are at home. In all of the varied relations of ss, society or in the home, Mr. Annin has nobly d to his children he will leave a record of which they

TLANTA, GA.
Picturesque Event Is to Take Place Some Day in June, 1902.
PLANS FOR RUSSELL'S TRIAL
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ing ever offered in Chicago. Gran son's wond reductions now on spe
"F. B. Q." tire balance —many exc fered only priced tailo ors, snappy plaids and
John Wormley has finished the w stead of at Blackstone. It is Ranso and Hopewell now.

JULIUS L. LEIX.

ung business man of Ottawa, Julius L. Leix is of possesses the sterling traits of the Teutonic race. ans, he is actively interested in whatever is of benefit ch he dwells, and to that end he uses his ballot and

ven children of Dionys and Victoria (Rapp) Leix,

the Republican party and for a number of years acceptably served his township as supervisor. In addition to his agricultural pursuits, he was a director in the National Bank at Marseilles, and his reputation was that of a reliable and substantial business man. Both he and his wife were consistent members of the Presbyterian church, and both died when seventy years of age.

B. F. Gage spent his childhood and youth on the old home farm midst play and work. He attended the public schools of Marseilles, acquiring a good practical education, and was trained to habits of industry and perseverance in the fields. He is now living on the old family homestead, which comprises four hundred and eighty acres of valuable land, under a high state of cultivation. He has a high-grade stock farm and [illegible] this section of Illinois for the excellence of his cattle. [illegible] on his place are many and modern, consisting of a plea[illegible] residence, substantial barns, good fences and the latest

In 1885 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ga[illegible] V. Carr, a native of LaSalle county and a daughter [illegible] deceased. Her father was a prominent farmer in Broo[illegible] her mother still resides. The union of Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] with four children: Ida A., Carrie L., Lawrence ar[illegible] Gage is a Republican in his political faith and is d[illegible] growth and success of his party, but has never so[illegible] father, he is a director in the National Bank of M[illegible] substantial stockholders that have made the instit[illegible] reliable financial concerns in the state. In manner h[illegible] ous, and has gained a large circle of friends, incl[illegible] known him since his boyhood days.

WILLIAM V. S. ANNIN

A valued citizen of Marseilles is the gentlema[illegible] penned, his residence here dating back almost a sc[illegible] his lineage it is found that he comes from honored [illegible] and that in him are united two quite distinct nati[illegible] the Holland-Dutch, both noted for integrity, indus[illegible] sense of honor and for patriotism and many othe[illegible] which animate mankind.

John Annin, who was born in Scotland, was [illegible] family in New Jersey. One of his descendants [illegible] Liberty Corner, Somerset county, New Jersey, an[illegible] dren was Joseph S., the father of our subject. He-

ut.

Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin, of Sarg[illegible] Neb., are visiting with Mrs. M[illegible] Newport.

Our school house is receiving a co[illegible] of coats of paint.

Mr. Burkhardt is giving his st[illegible] building and dwelling house its ann[illegible] coat of paint.

Mr. Evans' family of Pennsylva[illegible] have arrived and are now domici[illegible] near the school house on the hill.

Communion services at the Cong[illegible] gational church next Sunday morni[illegible]

CARD OF THANKS

The undersigned desire to expr[illegible] our thanks to all who so kindly mi[illegible] tered to us in our sad bereavement[illegible] the loss of our son and brother. [illegible] wish especially to express our appr[illegible] iation of the sympathy and helpfuln[illegible] as shown by the teachers and pupils [illegible] the public school.

WM. VOIGHT AND FAMILY,
Kangley, Ill

Ransom.

Ray and Ethel Porter are students [illegible] the High school, and will attend t[illegible] winter term.

Quite a lot of land seekers went w[illegible] on the excursion Tuesday from t[illegible] place.

Our community was greatly excit[illegible] last Friday when the news came th[illegible] John Held had shot himself with t[illegible] intention of suicide. He left ho[illegible] Thursday with his gun, and neighbo[illegible] searched all day for him and could n[illegible] find him. Friday he was found in [illegible] old deserted house, in the cellar, wi[illegible] a bullet hole in his forehead, but [illegible] was still conscious. He was taken [illegible] the hospital in Ottawa, and it is no[illegible] believed he will recover.

The masons are laying the found[illegible] tion of the Hagi house. C. Shaefer h[illegible] the carpenter work to do.

Mrs. William Whitmore and so[illegible] Charles, of Wilmington, are visitin[illegible] friends here this week.

R. Wormley is talking of having [illegible] furnace put in his house.

Rev. Taylor now preaches at O[illegible]

of 1812, and was a merchant by occupation. He married Miss Ellen Schenck, a daughter of Ferdinand Schenck, of Dutch ancestry. Mr. Schenck was a successful agriculturist in New Jersey for many years.

William V. S. Annin was born in Millstone, Somerset county, New Jersey, November 28, 1827, and in his boyhood received a liberal education. He remained under the parental roof until he reached his majority, and in 1849, during the great gold excitement on the Pacific coast, he sailed for California, going around Cape Horn. He was not very favorably impressed with the west nor the prospects of acquiring a fortune, and the following year he returned to New York city. At New Brunswick, New Jersey, he embarked in a mercantile business, which occupied his time and attention for twenty years. In 1870 he concluded to come to Illinois, and, locating in Marseilles, he soon found employment with the Marseilles Manufacturing Company, having charge of the store of supplies, bolts, screws, and similar fittings. He continued to act in this position year after year, winning the approbation and good will of all associated in business with him, and only his severe illness caused him to abandon his post of duty, recently.

The substantial brick residence of the Annin family is located on West Bluff street. The estimable lady who presides over the well-being of the household was formerly Miss Harriet M. Plummer, her marriage to Mr. Annin being solemnized in Brooklyn, New York, June 2, 1858. She was born and reared in that city, and is the only daughter of Roswell and Harriet (Chamberlain) Plummer, who were natives of Vermont, but who after their marriage lived in Brooklyn. Seven children blessed the union of our subject and wife, and of these Roswell P. is now a resident of Los Angeles, California; Harriet M. is the wife of Howard M. Weirick, of Phoenix, Arizona; Louise E. is the wife of E. R. Spencer, of Marseilles; William S. is living in Council Bluffs, Iowa; Mary T. is the wife of Walter Hobart, of Marseilles; and Joseph S. and Nellie W. are at home. In all of the varied relations of life, whether in business, society or in the home, Mr. Annin has nobly performed his duties, and to his children he will leave a record of which they may justly be proud.

JULIUS L. LEIX.

A representative young business man of Ottawa, Julius L. Leix is of German ancestry, and possesses the sterling traits of the Teutonic race. Like all patriotic Americans, he is actively interested in whatever is of benefit to the community in which he dwells, and to that end he uses his ballot and influence.

He is one of the seven children of Dionys and Victoria (Rapp) Leix,

who were natives of Germany. Mrs. Leix departed this life July 30, 1899. His brothers and sisters are named as follows: John, Joseph, Frank, Kate, Sophia, and Victoria. Kate became the wife of George Jobst, of Ottawa; Sophia is the wife of L. S. Ball, of LaSalle county; and Victoria married Robert Richardson.

The birth of Julius L. Leix took place in this town, October 17, 1870, and with his brothers and sisters he acquired thorough knowledge of both the English and German languages in his childhood. For several years he has been engaged in the hotel business, for which he seems to have special talent, and is widely known and popular among the traveling public and his local patrons. His father was the manager of the Washington House in this place for some time, but has retired. Julius L. is the proprietor of the National Hotel, which is centrally situated, at No. 303 Main street. The building, which is a commodious, modern brick structure, sixty by seventy feet in dimensions, and three stories in height, was erected just ten years ago. It is furnished with fire escapes, is heated by steam and is fitted out in every way in a neat, attractive manner. There are forty-five rooms in the hotel, thus affording guests abundant opportunity of choice and location.

In 1897 Mr. Leix married Miss Carrie Kummer, of Ottawa, and one child, Andrew, has blessed the union of the young couple. Fraternally Mr. Leix belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the German Benevolent Society. Politically he is independent, using his franchise for the men and principles instead of party.

CHARLES C. STRONG.

What may be accomplished by a young man possessing brains, energy and good principles is exemplified in the life of Charles C. Strong, one of the prominent and highly respected citizens of Grand Ridge, LaSalle county, and we are glad to be able to present to his numerous friends in business and social circles, here and elsewhere, the following synopsis of his career and history.

His father, Alfred W. Strong, was one of the honored early farmer settlers of DuPage county, Illinois, while his mother, who bore the maiden name of Orilla J. Crawford, was a native of Hudson, Ohio, and died when Charles C. was but two years of age. He was the second eldest of four children, the others being Emma, now the wife of Dr. M. Bullesfeld, of Troy Grove, Illinois; Caroline, who is unmarried and resides in Waterbury, Conn.; and Emmett, who died in New Mexico, about six years ago. The father, who was a man of liberal education and attainments, was killed by

the cars while attending a Knights Templar conclave in St. Louis, Missouri, ten years ago, and was mourned by all who had known him.

The birth of Charles C. Strong took place four miles south of the town of Naperville, DuPage county, in 1862, and when he arrived at a suitable age he commenced attending the schools of his native place. Later he entered the local college and made good progress in his studies. Upon embarking in the world of business he obtained employment with the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company, and was telegraph operator and station and ticket agent and served in other capacities during the fourteen or fifteen years of his connection with that corporation. In 1894 he came to Grand Ridge, where he has invested considerable money, and where he intends to make his permanent home. Five years ago he established the now thriving Bank of Grand Ridge, and was one of the original stockholders in the First National Bank at Earlville, Illinois. He owns valuable real estate in various parts of this county, and brick business houses in Grand Ridge, heated with hot water throughout, with large plate-glass windows and finished in oak, this representing, in part, what he has achieved unaided. In his political views he favors the platform of the Republican party, and votes accordingly, and is usually in attendance at their political conventions. Socially he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, being identified with the blue lodge, chapter and commandery of Knights Templars. Mr. Strong is a member of the village council and has under his supervision the construction of a sewer for draining Grand Ridge and various other local improvements for the upbuilding of Grand Ridge.

The marriage of Mr. Strong and Miss Abbie L. Aldrich took place at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Laura Aldrich, December 23, 1883, at Mendota, Illinois. Three sons and a little daughter bless the home of our subject and wife, their names in order of birth being as follows: Willis V., Robert, Orilla and Charles Howard. The family reside in an attractive home and within its hospitable walls their numerous friends are frequently entertained. Mr. and Mrs. Strong are members of the Presbyterian church at Grand Ridge.

JOSEPH E. BOND.

The native sons of Illinois are noted the country over for exceptional business ability, and those who have been so fortunate as to serve an apprenticeship in Chicago, the city of marvelous enterprise, must of necessity have become imbued with the spirit which prevails there. One of the young and progressive business men of Marseilles, J. E. Bond, was born in

Champaign county, Illinois, in November, 1865, and consequently is in his early prime, full of ambition and promise.

The father of our subject was David Bond, a native of England and for years one of the representative citizens of Champaign county. The mother of J. E. Bond bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Edwards. With his two brothers and six sisters he passed his early years in his native town, attending the public schools, and when he had completed his high-school course he entered the state university. Having spent as much time in preparation for the more serious duties of life as he felt justified in doing, Mr. Bond went to Chicago, where he obtained a position with the well known packing firm of Swift & Company, with whom he remained for eighteen months. Thus thoroughly initiated into the systematic methods of an extensive concern, he resigned his place in order to accept a better one with Baird & Company, and later was employed by the Link Belt Company. In November, 1895, he came to Marseilles and is now the superintendent of the Western Egg Case Company, and vice-president of the Bule Gas-Engine Company. He has worked untiringly for the prosperity of these two companies, and to his efforts are due much of their present success and high standing.

The marriage of Mr. Bond and Miss Margaret Moore, a daughter of the Rev. J. Moore, of Kewanee, Illinois, was solemnized at Lake Forest, Illinois, in September, 1894. They have two sons, Joseph E., Jr., and Roger M. Mr. and Mrs. Bond are members of the Congregational church, and are valued workers in the Sunday-school. They have many sincere friends here and elsewhere, and are justly esteemed by all who enjoy their acquaintance.

ISAAC H. BENNETT.

This gentleman is one of the progressive farmers and leading and public-spirited citizens of Deer Park township, LaSalle county, and as such his biography is of more than passing interest in this work.

Isaac Heman Bennett was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, June 30, 1835, a son of William Bennett and a grandson of Stephen Bennett. The Bennetts are descended from English and Scotch ancestors who were among the early settlers of Connecticut. Stephen Bennett passed his life in that state. His father grew up on the Connecticut frontier, around Great Barrington, among the red men of the forest and was necessarily one of the hardy pioneers of our colonial period. For the most part the Bennetts have been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and wherever they have lived have been among the leading and highly respected citizens of their respective localities. William Bennett, the father of Isaac H., brought his family to

the west by the lake route to Chicago and by canal to Ottawa, Illinois, in 1852. He chose Deer Park township as his place of settlement and bought a tract of land, mostly wild and with scarcely an evidence of the white man's presence, and upon this tract he spent the rest of his life and died. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Brunson, survived him a number of years, her death occurring in 1899, at the age of eighty-six years. Their children are: Diana, the wife of Rev. A. S. Calkins, of Normal, Illinois; Isaac H.; George A., of Utica township; Henry F., of Deer Park township; Charles Franklin, of California; Edgar, of Mendota, Illinois; Edwin, of Iowa; Nelson G., of Livingston county, Illinois; and Emma, who died aged four years.

Isaac H. Bennett was seventeen years old when he first saw the prairies of LaSalle county. He remained a member of his father's household until his marriage, after which he was for a few years a renter. Then, in the early '60s, he bought a portion of his father's farm, and this he has improved and enlarged in area, and has made it his home. One of the first lessons he learned was that of industry. All his life he has practiced industry and a wise economy, and in consequence has reached a position of financial independence.

Mr. Bennett was married in January, 1856, to Miss Anna Reed, a daughter of Jonathan Reed, and the fruits of their union are three sons—William is a resident of his native township; Arthur E. is in California; and Milton G. is a minister of the Christian church in Iowa.

Politically Mr. Bennett has no public record. He has found it to his interest to support the Republican party in all elections affecting the state and nation, but has never been ambitious to possess any place of public trust.

A. CLEMENT.

The enterprise of New England and the progressive methods of doing business in the western states find exemplification in the daily life of Mr. Clement, proprietor of the Windsor Hotel, of Ottawa, for he has spent years in both parts of the Union and has thoroughly entered into the spirit of the communities in which he has dwelt.

In reviewing the history of our subject it is found that he comes from one of the old and honored families of Vermont. His paternal grandfather was captain of a sea-going vessel, the Neptune. The parents of Mr. Clement, Chauncey and Sarah (Brown) Clement, natives of Vermont, had six children, five sons and one daughter, most of whom are still living.

Mr. Clement was born in Franklin, Vermont, in 1830. When thirty

years of age he went to California, and for some time was engaged in business in San Francisco. He then returned to his native state and for a number of years was very successfully occupied in the hotel business in the town of Richford. Later he went to Wisconsin, where he managed hotels at Sheboygan, Stevens' Point and Beloit, being located at the last named place for three years. In 1897 he came to Ottawa and took charge of the Windsor Hotel, which he rented and has since carried on with gratifying success. This fine hotel, one of the best in the northern part of Illinois, was erected at a cost of thirty thousand dollars. It is a modern three-story building, heated by steam, furnished throughout with hot and cold water, and all of the appliances considered necessary in a first-class hotel. Large, attractive dining and billiard rooms and parlors, and light, clean and comfortably furnished rooms for guests are among the features noted here, and the cuisine is excellent. The long, practical experience of the proprietor, who has devoted almost his entire mature life to this line of business, makes him thoroughly conversant with the wishes and needs of the public. He is frank, generous and of a happy, genial disposition, and is a great favorite with his patrons and numerous friends of this locality. In political standing he is a Democrat, taking an intelligent view of the national issues of the day.

On the 25th of January, 1881, Mr. Clement and Miss Mary Shell, of Wisconsin, were united in marriage. Mrs. Clement is an able coadjutor in the multitudinous duties and cares which rest upon her husband, and in many ways she makes her presence felt for good in the direction and supervision of the various departments of work always inseparable from the proper management of a hotel of these proportions.

ERNST GLEIM.

This well known citizen of Ottawa is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in the village of Asmushausen, Hesse-Cassel, October 26, 1835. He is a son of George and Anna B. Gleim, who were of the agricultural class, honest and respected, and whose entire lives were spent in the Fatherland.

Having completed the regulation period of time in the government schools, Ernst Gleim was well qualified in general to enter upon the more serious responsibilities of life, and in 1851 he made one of the most important steps in his career. He determined to come to the United States, and bidding farewell to the friends and associations of his childhood he embarked on a sailing vessel at the port of Bremen. At the end of a tedious voyage of some six weeks' duration, he arrived at New York city, in which metropolis

he passed seven years. In the meantime he had learned the barber's trade, serving a two years' apprenticeship, and after working as a journeyman for some time he concluded to go to Chicago, where better wages were paid. Not long after he reached that city he came to Ottawa, where he opened a barber shop in 1858. For forty-one years he has conducted this business here, and without doubt he is one of the most popular and well patronized barbers of LaSalle county.

In 1862 Mr. Gleim married Miss Fredericka Wolf in New York city. She is a native of Germany, and is a daughter of John E. Wolf. Ten children were born to this marriage, and the family circle is still unbroken by the hand of death. In order of birth the children are named as follows: Henry, Adam, Katherine, Louisa, Minnie, Ernest, Jr., George, Fred, Will and Frank.

A man well informed upon the general topics of the day, Mr. Gleim is a patriotic son of his adopted country, with intelligent views upon all public questions of moment. Until 1887 he had upheld the Republican party, but since that time he has been independent in politics. Socially he belongs to Lessing Lodge, No. 326, I. O. O. F. He owns a comfortable dwelling and has a competence for his declining years, as a result of his industry and application to business.

JUDSON SPAULDING.

Judson Spaulding, son of the well known citizen, George H. Spaulding, of Waltham township, LaSalle county, was born in Waltham township, October 13, 1853. He was reared on his father's farm and was educated in the district schools, and on reaching his majority engaged in farming on his own account. Since 1875 he has been identified with Ophir township.

Mr. Spaulding was married March 10, 1881, to Annie M. Bibbins, who came to the state of Illinois from New York. The children of this marriage are three,—Arthur J., Walter S., and William G. Mr. Spaulding's father, George H. Spaulding, was born in New York state, August 13, 1827, a son of William Spaulding, a sailor. In 1851 George H. Spaulding, then a poor man, took up his residence in Waltham township. He did many a hard day's work for the wages it brought and needed it for the support of life in his home, and in his case honest and earnest effort brought just reward. He engaged in farming and met with that success that enabled him to buy a piece of land from time to time, and as the years rolled by prosperity attended him until now he is reckoned one of the substantial and well-to-do men of this town. He married Miss Polly Bibbins, a daughter of Jeremiah Bibbins,

and their children are: Annie, the wife of Patrick Donahue, of the town of Waltham; Judson; Julia, the wife of William Scott, of Waltham; Mary, the wife of Niel Peterson, of Calamus, Iowa; Naomi, the wife of John Bain, of Cushing, Iowa; Nellie, the widow of Lee Spaulding, living at home; Cora, the wife of George Spaulding, Cushing, Iowa; and Belle, the wife of William Hunter, also of Cushing, Iowa.

DANIEL C. MILLS.

Daniel C. Mills, a retired farmer of Ottawa, LaSalle county, Illinois, was born in Staffordshire, England, July 3, 1832. He is a son of Daniel and Sarah (Smith) Mills, both natives of England who emigrated to the United States in 1833, arriving in New York city. He became interested in the Veneer Mills, of Cohoes, New York, remaining there until 1839. He sold his mills at Cohoes and returned to Tipton, Staffordshire, England, where he engaged in business, remaining there until 1843, when he started from Tipton by boat to Liverpool; thence he went by sailing vessel to New York, by boat to Albany, by the Erie canal to Buffalo, and by steamer to Chicago, making the entire distance from his old home in England to Chicago by water.

At Chicago he purchased a wagon and team, with which he came to Ottawa. Here he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of Thomas Basnett, and at once entered upon its improvement. He was also interested in the mills here and continued to identify himself with the prosperity of the place until his death, which occurred September 23, 1880, at the advanced age of seventy-six years. He was a Republican and took an active interest in all local affairs, acting as supervisor and assessor of the town of South Ottawa, and treasurer of the school district, also as enrolling officer during the war. His wife reached her seventy-eighth year, dying June 30, 1891. They were the parents of four children, namely: Daniel C., our subject; Edward C., who died in 1870; Sarah J., wife of Thomas J. Stumph; and George A., of this city.

Daniel C. Mills was a lad of twelve years when his parents left their native country, and his education was well advanced. After reaching Ottawa he attended school in what was known as the old Mechanics' Hall. He continued to assist his father about the farm work until he was twenty-one, and at the age of twenty-three purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Farm Ridge, where he began farming for himself. He placed this land in first-class condition, putting up a good dwelling, barn, sheds and other required improvements, and adding greatly to its convenience and appear-

D. C. Mills

ance. He was among the first to introduce the famous Norman and English Shire horses in this locality, receiving fabulous prices for some of them. One team brought him the splendid sum of seven hundred and fifty dollars, and all commanded good prices. He continued to add to his original purchase until he had accumulated four hundred and sixty acres of choice farm land, upon which he lived until 1887, when he moved to East Ottawa.

Mr. Mills was married November 3, 1855, to Miss Eliza Hogoboom, a native of this city and a daughter of Richard and Phoebe (Farnsworth) Hogoboom. Mr. Hogoboom came from New York to LaSalle county in 1829, and in partnership with Russel Kimbal built the first dam across the Illinois river, at Marseilles, in 1830. Mrs. Hogoboom departed this life in May, 1877, while Mr. Hogoboom lived until May 9, 1899, passing away in his ninety-second year.

Five sons and four daughters have blessed the home of Mr. Mills, viz.: Charles C., an attorney at law, of Rensselaer, Indiana; Albert F., a farmer; Horace, also a farmer; Abbie, deceased; Alice; Phoebe; Eliza; Richard, a student; and William A. The family are all members of the Episcopal church and liberal contributors of both time and money to the cause of that ecclesiastical body. Mr. Mills is a member of Occidental Lodge, No. 40, F. & A. M.; Ottawa Chapter, No. 37, Royal Arch Masons; and Ottawa Commandery, No. 10, Knights Templar. A Republican, he has held a number of minor offices in the gift of the people and is highly respected for his honor and integrity of character.

WILLIAM FREAD.

William Fread, of Serena township, LaSalle county, is entitled to rank with that class of citizens known as pioneers, he having taken up his abode on Fox river in this county in 1857. His father, also named William Fread, came to LaSalle county in 1856 and died here in the fall of that year. He was a Kentuckian who had at a very early day gone up into Indiana and settled at a frontier home in Franklin county, where he married and reared his children. His wife, a New Jersey lady, was before marriage Miss Abigail Rockefeller. Their graves are side by side in Mission township, LaSalle county, across the river from the old Fread homestead. Of their family we record that John, who had married Ruth Clark in Indiana, went to Texas, and died there some fifty years ago; Samuel and Henry, the next two, died young; the fourth born was William, whose name introduces this sketch; and James married a Miss Scott and died in Livingston county, Illinois, leaving a number of children.

William Fread was born in Franklin county, March 7, 1816, and was there reared and married. Since coming to Illinois he has devoted his energies to farm work, his efforts have been rewarded with success, and he is now the owner of two hundred and sixteen acres of choice land, well improved and highly cultivated, ranking with the best farms to be found on Fox river.

Mr. Fread was married, in 1841, to Miss Elizabeth Spradling, who died about ten years ago. She bore him the following named children: Martha, wife of Henry Miller, of Kansas; Henry R., of Sheridan, Illinois, who married a Miss Pooler; Leonidas, who married a Miss Hoag, resides in Iowa; Sarah J.; Louise, wife of Henry Plauger; and Nancy E., wife of Daniel Bagwell, of South Dakota.

Mr. Fread cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren for president of the United States. He then deserted the Democracy and has since affiliated with the Republican party. He has never sought nor filled office, his own private affairs having occupied the whole of his time and attention.

SAMUEL H. MONTGOMERY.

Samuel H. Montgomery was born July 6, 1857, near the village of Richmond, Jefferson county, Ohio. His parents were Dr. James Montgomery and Rebecca Swickard Montgomery, natives of Ohio. Dr. James Montgomery, our subject's father, was reared on a farm until seventeen years of age, his father, Hugh Montgomery, being a farmer by occupation. Dr. Montgomery received his primary education in the district schools and afterward spent about two years at the Richmond College. He began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. George D. Hamilton, of Knoxville, Ohio, and later attended the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati. He commenced the practice of medicine at Knoxville, Ohio, and in November, 1863, came to Illinois, locating at Smithville, Peoria county, where he remained until 1867. In 1867 he settled in Marseilles, where for nearly a quarter of a century he was actively engaged in the practice of his profession. As a physician he was widely known, popular and highly successful, dispensing medical aid and comfort to the sick and dying, often without hope of reward or remuneration, other than that of ministering to the needs and welfare of his fellow beings. As a citizen he was respected and honored with the presidency of the city council, and as a man he was generous and just, genial and cheerful. He died in Marseilles, March 11, 1896. His widow survives him and resides at the old home with Miss Mary, a daughter, one of the most popular and successful teachers in the city schools.

Samuel H. Montgomery, the subject of this sketch, accompanied his parents to Marseilles, where he grew to manhood. In 1885 he went to Beatrice, Nebraska, where he remained seven years, the greater part of that time being in the employ of The Beatrice Electric Light & Gas Company. In November, 1892, he returned to Marseilles. November 6, 1895, Mr. Montgomery was married to Laura Conard, a daughter of David Conard and Elizabeth Grove Conard. She was born on the old homestead in Miller township, LaSalle county, Illinois, November 15, 1860. After receiving her primary education in the Loring district school she spent some time at the Morris Normal School, this state. As Miss Laura Conard she was known as one of the most efficient and popular teachers in the county, and many of her pupils carry pleasant memories of profitable days that were passed under her instructions. To Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery have been born two children: Wilson C., who died in infancy; and Winifred, a bright little daughter who now blesses their home.

ALBERT SCHAEFER.

A life-long resident of Ottawa, LaSalle county, Albert Schaefer, the owner and manager of the Ottawa Opera-House, is well known here, and no one stands higher in the esteem of the general public. As his name gives evidence, he is of German extraction, and in fact his father, A. Schaefer, was a native of the great empire now ruled by Emperor William. He came to the United States more than half a century ago, however, and fought for his adopted country in the Mexican and civil wars, thus doubly entitling himself to be enrolled in the Grand Army of the Republic, with which organization he was connected. He married Miss Christine Miller, of Lanark, Illinois, and of the eleven children born to this worthy couple seven are still living. Four daughters reside in Ottawa; John makes his home in California, and George is now in Tennessee. Their honored father, who died in 1874, was the victim of a most distressing railroad accident.

The birth of Mr. Schaefer occurred in 1863, at his parental home in Ottawa, and when he had arrived at suitable years he commenced attending the public schools of this place. One of the most important steps taken by him in his early manhood was his marriage, in February, 1888, to Miss Mary Sophia Schmidt, who is a native of Germany, and for some time has lived in this country. Two daughters bless this union, namely: Sylvia and Esther.

As the crowning act of a long and prosperous business career, Mr. Schaefer erected the handsome and substantial brick opera-house of Ottawa,

three years ago. This modern structure, two stories in height, one hundred and twenty-six feet long and thirty-six feet wide, has a seating capacity of one thousand persons, and is extensively used for public meetings, and for the various local lodges and associations of the town. It is centrally situated, being at the corner of Chestnut and Jefferson streets. Politically Mr. Schaefer is a stanch Republican, and fraternally he is a Knight of Pythias, a member of the German Benevolent Society; the I. O. O. F., and the O. M. P.

AMOS C. BALDWIN.

Amos C. Baldwin, of Deer Park township, LaSalle county, was born at the place where he now lives, August 7, 1848; was educated at Jennings Seminary at Aurora, and at Mount Carroll, Illinois, and at the age of twenty-three engaged in teaching, a profession he followed for four years. At the end of that time he decided to return to the labors of the farm and accordingly established himself at the old home, where he has given the best years of his life to the successful and intelligent cultivation of the soil and the raising of live stock.

Mr. Baldwin is a son of Edgar Baldwin, who was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, in the year 1814, and who spent the early years of his life in his native state and learned the carriage-maker's trade there. In 1843 he came west to Illinois, a journeyman carriage-maker, and located at Ottawa, where he engaged in the carriage business with William Palmer, with whom he was associated for some time. When he left the factory he bought a farm in Deer Park township, where he resided until his death in 1895. In politics he was originally a Whig, but in later life affiliated with the Democratic party. His wife, whose maiden name was Helen Calkins, was a daughter of John W. Calkins, who came from Connecticut to Illinois in 1838, and was one of the first settlers of Deer Park township. Their children are as follows: Amos C., the direct subject of this sketch; Mrs. I. N. Reed, of Urbana, Illinois; Mrs. J. M. Massey, of Virginia, Illinois; and Mrs. Lucy Williams, deceased.

Amos C. Baldwin married, January 17, 1878, Miss Elizabeth Reynolds, a daughter of Joseph M. Reynolds. The Reynolds family was the first to settle in Deer Park township, Martin Reynolds, Mrs. Baldwin's grandfather, being the first settler. He came from the state of Ohio and his place of location here was on Vermilion river near Deer Park. Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin's children are Agnes R., Jessie, Louise, Marion and Margaret.

Mr. Baldwin is one of the prominent political factors in his township. In politics he has always been a Republican and is at the present time a

member of the Republican county central committee. He was elected the supervisor in 1892, having previously been the township clerk and commissioner of highways. He was a member of the county board seven consecutive years, three of the seven years being the chairman of the board, and rendered valuable service to his town and country. He served as the chairman of the committee on paupers and statistics, was on the road and bridge committee and on the special committee of that name. He was on the special committee to erect the county insane asylum. The matter of the reduction of pauper expenses gave him much concern and he labored to bring about such a reform in the administration of the county pauper affairs that would achieve that end. The present plan in vogue was adopted in conformity with a resolution of his own and is expected to produce beneficial results.

Mr. Baldwin takes an active interest in church and Sunday-school affairs. He has been the superintendent of the Sunday-school of his community twenty-five years.

FREDERICK P. HARTSHORN.

Mr. Hartshorn, named above, is a progressive farmer who adds skill and science to agricultural art, and is not slow to forsake old methods when they are improved by modern appliances. He has one of the finest and best improved farms in LaSalle county, due to his intelligent and judicious management. He is a son of Alfred I. and Amelia (Dean) Hartshorn, and was born in Waltham township, LaSalle county, August 17, 1860. His father, a native of New York, and his mother, of Connecticut, came to this county in 1837, their location being chosen probably because his aunt, Mrs. Hannah B. Burnham, had preceded them and made her home in Waltham township, this county. They purchased a farm in that township, and there Frederick P. Hartshorn grew to manhood, attending the district schools and later entering the high school in LaSalle. He had a natural ability for farming and assisted his father in the care of his land. In 1882 the family moved to LaSalle township, and about seven years ago he took charge of his father's large farm of four hundred and fifty acres. He carries on general farming, raises horses and hogs, and conducts a dairy. His dairy herd consists of about sixty cows, whose feed and comfort are carefully looked after, and the returns he receives from them clearly demonstrate the success of his methods.

Mr. Hartshorn was married, September 8, 1885, to Miss Juliet Bushnell, daughter of Washington and Phoebe (Charles) Bushnell, of Ottawa. One child, Alfred Burnham, has blessed this union. They are communicants

of the Episcopal church, and Mr. Hartshorn is a prominent member of Waltham Lodge, No. 384, A. F. & A. M., and the Peru Chapter, R. A. M. He is also a member of St. Elmo Lodge, No. 70, K. of P., of Ottawa; and of the Modern Woodmen of America, Home Forum, Royal Neighbors and the Court of Honor.

CHARLES A. CARY.

In following the history of successful men in the business world how often does the truth of the saying of the great poet come to us that "there is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune." Happy is the man who is prepared, by nature and education, to grasp the opportunity at the instant that it presents itself, and then, with all the powers of his mind, molds and adapts himself to the opportunity, and it, in turn, to his own uses.

Charles A. Cary, a prominent citizen of Utica, is an example of the keen, energetic business man of to-day, one who, even in his early manhood, evinced marked talents, and by the time that he had seen thirty summers was fully launched upon the flood tide which is bearing him on to fortune. One of LaSalle county's native sons, he was born in the city of that name, December 4, 1857, a son of Charles A. and Mary J. (Blakeslee) Cary. When he was eleven years old he removed with the family to Chicago, which was his home for several years. His elementary education was acquired in the public schools of LaSalle and Chicago. He then attended University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Indiana, after which he attended the Highland Military Academy at Worcester, Massachusetts. Returning to Chicago, he then pursued a course in telegraphy, and in 1877 was appointed as an operator at Ottawa, and in the following April was transferred to Utica, where for nine years he was in charge of the Rock Island Railway office. At the end of that period, in 1887, he entered into partnership with W. C. and E. J. Reynolds, under the firm name of E. J. Reynolds & Company, and engaged in the shipping of washed sand from the celebrated sand hills near this place. The company controls a large area of this sand, which is of an extremely fine quality, possessing the features especially desirable in the manufacture of glass, its chief use. Thousands of car-loads are annually shipped to glass factories in Chicago and points in Illinois and Indiana, the output of this plant finding a market within a comparatively limited area of the country. Mr. Cary is a stockholder in the Utica Hydraulic Cement Company, and is now acting in the capacity of vice-president of that flourishing concern.

On the 4th of December, 1883, the marriage of Mr. Cary and Miss Julia M. Peckham, of Pontiac, Illinois, was solemnized. She is a daughter of Professor John B. and Charlotte (Clark) Peckham. Two sons and three daughters bless the home of our subject and wife, namely: Howard Clark; Alta Beulah; Viola Belle; Charles Arthur and Marjorie M.

Socially Mr. Cary is a member of Acacia Lodge, No. 67, A. F. & A. M., of LaSalle, and of Peru Chapter, No. 60, R. A. M.; Peru Council, No. 12, R. & S. M.; and St. John's Commandery, No. 26, K. T. In political matters he adheres to the platform of the Republican party, and is an earnest supporter of its nominees. In local affairs he takes an intelligent interest, his ballot and influence being always used for the improvement of the town.

KIMBALL WHITE LELAND, M. D.

The blood of sturdy, patriotic New Englanders flows in the veins of the subject of this sketch, a leading physician of Utica, LaSalle county. His great-great-grandfather, Aaron Kimball, was a hero of the French and Indian war of 1757, and at the commencement of the notable struggle of the British colonies of this country against the parental government he was commissioned a captain, on account of his past experience and valuable services about a score of years previously. His commission, dated April 5, 1776, placing him in charge of a company of the Sixth Massachusetts Infantry, was the direct outcome, however, of the prominent part which he had taken on the 19th of April, 1775, at Lexington. His son, the great-grandfather of the Doctor, was a member of the company commanded by Captain Aaron Kimball, at Lexington, participated in the battles of Bennington, Vermont, and Bunker Hill, and eventually became a captain in the regiment commanded by Colonel Wheelock. On the Leland side of the family the Doctor is a great-grandson of Eleazer Leland, who served in the war for independence, and took an active part in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill, and grandson of Colonel Cyrus Leland, a prominent citizen of Grafton, Massachusetts.

Born in Ottawa, Illinois, November 4, 1857, Dr. K. W. Leland is a son of Judge Pardon Kimball and Elizabeth Margaret (White) Leland. He received excellent educational advantages in the schools of that locality, and, after completing his studies in the Ottawa high school, took up medical work under the preceptorship of Dr. A. E. Gibbs and Professor Olin, of Ottawa, in 1876. For the three winters following he attended the Bennett Medical College, in Chicago, and was graduated in that institution, March 27, 1879. The same year he came to Utica, where, for just a score of years

he has been very successfully engaged in the practice of his profession. A thorough believer in progress in all lines, he endeavors to keep posted in all discoveries relating to disease and the treatment of the same, and in the winter of 1879 he pursued a special course in the Chicago College of Ophthalmology and Otology. He also graduated at Rush Medical College, in March, 1892. In 1892 the honorary degree of Bachelor of Science was bestowed upon him by the Northwestern Norman School, of Geneseo, Illinois. At present he is serving the LaSalle Medical Society as its president, and has long been one of its most esteemed and valued members. From 1879 to 1885 he was the city physician of Utica, and from 1879 to 1887 he served this township in a similar capacity. As a surgeon he has won special attention, as he has performed many exceedingly difficult and delicate operations. In connection with his regular practice he made a special study of the subject of drugs and their uses, and holds a diploma as a registered pharmacist.

Socially the Doctor is very popular. He belongs to the Masonic order, in which he has attained the Knight Templar degree, and he also is affiliated with the Odd Fellows. His marriage to Miss Mary Louisa Crosair was solemnized October 24, 1883. She departed this life on the 17th of June, 1891, and left one child, Pardon Kimball, Jr. Dr. Leland is a member of the Utica Baptist church, and is a deacon in the congregation.

GEORGE HUM.

The subject of this sketch, George Hum, is ranked with the prosperous and enterprising farmers of Mission township, LaSalle county, Illinois. Although a native of Pennsylvania, he has never known any other home than Illinois, whither he was brought in his infancy by his parents, Henry and Anna (Keck) Hum.

Henry Hum was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, July 4, 1811, of German parentage. In his youth he received a good education in both German and English, and for some time taught a German school. Farming, however, was his life occupation. He was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Anna Keck, who, like himself, was a native of that state and of German extraction. In 1851 they came west to Illinois, settling first in Northville township, LaSalle county, and later moving to Adams township. He carried on farming in this county for a number of years; lived to a ripe old age, and died in 1893. His wife passed away in 1888. They were the parents of thirteen children, six of whom are now living.

George Hum was born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania, December 27,

1849, and at the time his parents emigrated to Illinois was two years old. He was reared on his father's farm, receiving his education in the common schools, and remaining a member of the home circle until he was twenty-seven years of age, when he married. For four years after his marriage he was engaged in farming in Earl township. Then he farmed three years in Serena township, four years in Adams township, and from the latter place came to his present farm in Mission township, where he owns one hundred and thirty-three acres of fine land and is carrying on general farming. Also he has for a period of thirty-four years been operating a threshing machine, in season, doing a successful business. In the fall of 1899, Mr. Hum purchased a hardware store in Sheridan, to which place he then removed.

Mr. Hum was married in 1878 to Miss Olive A. Beardsley, a daughter of Edwin and Margaret (Townsend) Beardsley. Mr. Beardsley was born in Williamstown, Berkshire county, Massachusetts, February 24, 1824, and came to Illinois about 1834. He was married in LaSalle county, this state, in 1844, to Miss Townsend, a native of Sullivan county, New York, born August 19, 1826, who came to Illinois about the time of his arrival here. In 1849 they made the journey across the plains to California, but some time later returned to Illinois, and are now living in Sheridan, LaSalle county. Mr. and Mrs. Hum have one son, Laurin V., and an adopted daughter, Leona.

Politically Mr. Hum is a Republican; and while he has never sought official honors for himself he has always taken a commendable interest in the success of his party.

ALBERT J. FOWLER.

This gentleman owns and occupies a valuable farm in Mission township, LaSalle county, comprising one hundred and ninety-five acres of land, and is a practical and progressive agriculturist, whose business methods are bringing to him creditable success.

Mr. Fowler can trace his ancestry back through many generations to Richard Eastman, who was born in Wales, in 1611, and came to this country in 1640, settling in Salisbury, Massachusetts. In the year 1747 three of his sons—Thomas, Enoch and Benjamin Eastman—removed to Hopkinton, New Hampshire, and there Thomas married Eunice Chase, of that town. They had three sons—Thomas, John, and Samuel, who was sometimes called Bonus—and a daughter, Hannah, and perhaps other daughters. Hannah married Deacon Jonathan Fowler, of Hopkinton, in 1784, and their children were Mary, Thomas (who was born November 13,

1786). Nicholas, Timothy, Ruth, Joanna G., Jeremiah, Eunice, Betsey, Martha and Chase. Mr. Fowler died September 7, 1840, at the age of seventy-six years, and his wife passed away May 19, 1858, at the age of ninety-one years.

Of their children Thomas Fowler married Olive Hale, of Hopkinton, a daughter of Captain John Hale, who commanded a company in the battle of Bunker Hill under General Stark. Thomas and Olive Fowler became the parents of the following children: Olive B., who was born in Hopkinton, New Hampshire, July 23, 1812, and died April 22, 1832; Thomas Milton, was born in Hopkinton, August 7, 1814, and died March 21, 1899; Jonathan, who was born at Warner, New Hampshire, January 27, 1817, and died in Newark, Illinois, November 20, 1850. The father of these children died in Newark, March 16, 1872, and his wife departed this life at the same place, on the 19th of April, 1850.

Thomas Milton Fowler, their elder son, was married November 8, 1849, to Hannah F. Phillips, who was born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, March 22, 1821. Their children were all natives of Newark, and in order of birth were as follows: Calvin, born April 9, 1851; Sylvanus, born February 10, 1852; Olive and Orville, twins, born February 11, 1854; Annie, who was born January 11, 1856, and died at Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 4, 1874; Emma, born December 28, 1857; William, born August 2, 1860; Matilda, who was born July 11, 1862, and died in Newark, Illinois, March 3, 1876; and Adell, born February 1, 1864. Of these children Calvin, the eldest, married Sophronia Parker, January 11, 1882, and their children are: Grace Maude, born in Wisconsin, January 13, 1883; Flossey Pearl, who was born at White Lake, South Dakota, June 3, 1884, and died on the 13th of September of the same year; and L. D., who was born in Ottawa, Illinois, February 6, 1890. Sylvanus was married January 13, 1875, to Ida R. Phillips. Orville was married November 6, 1878, to Amelia A. Jones, and their children are: Claude E., who was born in Newark, June 16, 1880; and R. B., in Newark, July 11, 1885. Olive became the wife of Charles S. Johnson, January 5, 1881, and their children are: Irving E., who was born at Fox, Illinois, September 18, 1885; and Jay F., at Plano, Illinois, June 11, 1888. Emma married Edgar E. Edgerton, January 5, 1881, and their children, born in Newark, are: Glenn V., born August 7, 1883; and Dean, May 26, 1889.

Jonathan Fowler, the father of our subject, was born at Warner, New Hampshire, December 27, 1817, and became one of the pioneer settlers of LaSalle county. With his brother, Milton Fowler, he came to the west about the year 1847, locating in Mission township, LaSalle county, where he spent his remaining days. He was here united in marriage, June 9, 1842,

to Miss Sarah Phillips, who was born in Henniker, New Hampshire, September 24, 1817. Mr. Fowler died in 1851, but the mother long survived him and passed away in Newark, Illinois, November 4, 1896. Their children were all born in Newark. John Hale, born March 23, 1845, is now an attorney at law of Ottawa, Illinois. He married Clara Wright, on the 9th of October, 1872, and their children are: Edward Wright, who was born in Newark, June 27, 1884; and Rex Hale, who was born in Ottawa, August 27, 1893. Chase, who was born August 15, 1846, is a member of the legal profession of Ottawa. He was married November 21, 1879, to Mrs. Mary E. Waterman, who died March 22, 1892, leaving two children, Eva and Chase, who were born in Ottawa, the former September 21, 1880, the latter February 15, 1883. For his second wife Chase Fowler wedded Angie Fread, on the 24th of September, 1895, and they have a son, Lyle N., who was born in Ottawa, Illinois, June 24, 1896. Albert J., who was born August 10, 1848, is the subject of this review. Jonathan and Thomas, twins, complete the list of children, and were born July 2, 1850; but Thomas died the following year. Jonathan, who is now a lawyer at the bar of Aurora, Illinois, was married March 24, 1891, to Mary E. Barnard, and they have one daughter, Marian Edna, who was born in Illinois, January 9, 1899.

Albert J. Fowler was reared on a farm and lessons of industry and economy were early impressed upon his mind and have had marked bearing upon his later life, causing him to be a practical, energetic and successful man of business. He was educated in the schools near his home, and has spent his entire life in Mission township. His diligence has been unabating, his perseverance continuous, and these qualities, combined with his honorable dealings, have secured to him a fine property, so that he is now the owner of one of the valuable farms of the county.

Mr. Fowler has been twice married. On the 11th of March, 1873, he led to the marriage altar Miss Frances Lewis, who died August 27, 1881. They had two children—Charles Milton, who was born in Newark, March 17, 1874, and died November 12, 1874; and Edith Marsellis, who was born June 26, 1876, in Newark, and was married January 23, 1895, to Stanton Sinclair, a native of Kansas, and they have one child, born November 27, 1898, and named Frances May. On the 14th of December, 1882, Mr. Fowler was again married, his second union being with Permelia Jane Mason, and four children have come to bless their union, all natives of Newark, namely: Emery Stipp, born March 11, 1884; Milton Ross, born November 8, 1885; Anna Arvillia, born July 3, 1888; and Alpha Armedia, born January 21, 1895.

Mr. Fowler exercises his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democracy, believing that its principles contain the

best elements of good government. He is a man worthy of the esteem of his fellow men, and in LaSalle county, where his entire life has been passed, he is widely and favorably known.

CHARLES R. BROWN.

In memory Charles R. Brown can live again the experiences of the pioneer life in LaSalle county and recall the scenes and environments of those days on the frontier when the work of settlement was just beginning and marked progress and advancement were still in the future. His long residence in LaSalle county has made him widely known and his upright life has gained for him the high regard of all with whom he has come in contact.

A native of Vermont, he was born in the town of Brandon, September 28, 1817. His parents were Micah and Phoebe (Merriam) Brown. The father was born at Ashford, Connecticut, in 1876, and was descended from Welsh ancestry. The mother was a native of Walpole, New Hampshire, and was a representative of an old New England family, to one of the collateral branches of which belonged Ethan Allen, the famous general of the Revolution. Charles R. Brown was the eighth in order of birth, of a family of eleven children, namely: James C., Evaline, Caroline, William Violet, Phoebe T., Cyrus M., Mary, Charles R., Albert, Anna D., and Laura Evaline. The father of these children resided in Brandon, Vermont, where his death occurred in 1863, when he had attained to the advanced age of eighty-seven years. He served with distinction in the war of 1812, rising to the rank of major.

Charles R. Brown spent his boyhood days upon a farm, and in the common schools acquired his education. When a youth of fourteen years he accompanied his eldest brother, the late Dr. James C. Brown, to Ohio, where he was reared to manhood. For a time he engaged in clerking in mercantile establishments in that locality, but devoted the greater part of his energies to agricultural pursuits. In 1842 he was married and began his domestic life upon a farm. He wedded Miss Malinda T. Dakin, who was born in Oakland, Ohio, and died in LaSalle, Illinois, in 1893, at the age of sixty-nine years, leaving an only child, now Mrs. Clara Parrish. In 1852 Mr. Brown and his wife came to LaSalle, but soon afterward he purchased a farm near Princeton, in Bureau county, Illinois, where he made his home for several years. On selling that property, he bought land in LaSalle county, and for many years thereafter was numbered among the most successful and extensive farmers and stock-raisers of the county. He entered

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Chas. R. Browne

Malinda J. Browne

upon his business career with no capital save determined purpose and willingness to work. Gradually, as the result of his enterprise and economy, his financial resources increased and he became one of the wealthiest farmers of LaSalle county. He was never a spendthrift, but made good use of his money and acquired it as the result of industry and careful management. He has spent the last few years in retirement from active labor, making his home in LaSalle. He, however, yet retains the ownership of a number of farms, his landed possessions being quite extensive.

Mr. Brown has a wide acquaintance in this county and is uniformly respected by those who know him. He has never sought political office, preferring to devote his energies and time to his business. He has, however, kept well informed on the issues of the day and has thus been able to give an intelligent support to the party of his choice. He cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison, and when the Republican party was formed he joined its ranks and has since followed its banners. One of his old-time acquaintances said to the writer, "You can find no better man in LaSalle county than Charles R. Brown." He has been a successful farmer, a splendid citizen, an honest and upright man and a faithful friend.

CHARLES G. WERNER.

Possessing the love and talent for music which seems to be the special heritage of the German people, Professor Werner, of Ottawa, has devoted much of his time to the art and figures conspicuously in all local events of a musical nature. He is looked up to and consulted in matters pertaining to music, his opinions being considered authority on the subject.

John George Werner, the father of our subject, was a native of Spangenberg, near Cassel, Germany, who for several years served in the standing army of that government, holding during his term of service several military positions of high honor. He was with the famous Hussars and saw six years of active service, during which the battle of Schleswig-Holstein against Denmark took place, in 1848. He often related reminiscences of his military experiences, in which he took great pride. He settled in this county in 1856, and departed this life in 1895, when in his seventy-first year. For his wife he married Anna Eliza Kerste, who is a devoted Christian and earnest co-worker with the German Lutheran congregation of Ottawa, her parents having been very religious and brought her up in their faith. Professor Werner's parents both often spoke of the eight weeks' voyage on the sailing vessel on which they crossed the Atlantic ocean to the New World. When they arrived here in LaSalle county the Indians were still numerous

in the vicinity. Mrs. Werner is still living, being now sixty-seven years of age. These parents had twelve children, of whom four have passed to the silent land. The survivors are: Charles G., the subject proper of this sketch; Christine; Henry G., successfully engaged in business in Ottawa as a boot and shoe merchant; Mrs. Minnie Poltrock, of Ottawa; Herman, a groceryman in Aurora, this state; Mrs. Martha Gasser, of Ottawa; Conrad, who is clerking in his elder brother's shoe store; also George.

The birth of Mr. Werner took place on the Atlantic ocean, May 26, 1856, and he passed his boyhood in Ottawa, receiving his education in the excellent public schools of the place. His musical ability was noted at an early period, and he received a thorough training from competent teachers. In 1884 he entered into business relations with C. A. Genold, a well known manufacturer of pianos in Chicago and has represented the firm as an agent here ever since, selling various musical instruments and enjoying an extensive patronage as a piano-tuner, in which line he is proficient, having made a special study of the difficult art. His diligent attention to the needs and wishes of his customers, his fair and courteous treatment of them and his thorough knowledge and experience in his chosen field of enterprise, have resulted in financial success; and whereas he was a poor man a few years ago he now enjoys a remunerative trade, etc.

The modern, beautiful residence of Professor Werner is situated at No. 1002 Ottawa avenue,—elegant in all its appointments,—and was erected in 1892, at a cost of twelve thousand dollars. Mrs. Werner, who presides over this attractive home, bore the maiden name of Eva L. Pope; and her marriage to Mr. Werner took place in 1881, at the home of her stepfather, John Brundage, of Miller township, this county. The youngest daughter of Mr. Werner and wife, Clara L., who died at the age of ten years, was a bright, promising girl, and her loss seems specially severe. Adaline L., another daughter, now eighteen years of age, is attending Ferry Hall Seminary at Lake Forest, being naturally a talented musician and a skilled artist as a pianist.

Politically Professor Werner is a Republican, and socially is identified with several of the Masonic bodies, in which he is deservedly popular.

THOMAS WRIGHT ESMOND.

The Esmonds have performed their full share toward the development of LaSalle county, and no more loyal citizens have ever dwelt within its boundaries from the time when it lay on the frontier of western civilization until the present day, when it ranks among the finest and most fertile and resourceful counties of the great prairie state.

Cornelius W. Esmond, the father of the subject of this memoir, was one of the first settlers of Utica township and in time became noted as one of its most prosperous agriculturists. For a wife he chose Miss Anna Brown, and they became the parents of seven children.

Thomas Wright Esmond, the second son of the worthy couple mentioned, was born in Utica township, June 4, 1858. His judicious father trained him well in every department of work pertaining to the cultivation and care of a farm, and by the time he had arrived at his majority he was thoroughly competent to undertake the management of a large homestead. He obtained a practical knowledge in the essential branches of an English education in the schools of his home district, and with this as a foundation he has become familiar with wider fields of research and affairs of moment to the world in general. Since his marriage, some fifteen years ago, he has conducted the farm which he now owns. The place is located on both sides of the road, one hundred and sixty acres being situated on section 12, Utica township, and the remainder, ninety-seven acres, in Ottawa township. Large barns afford ample accommodation for the quantities of grain raised each year on the place. A high grade of Norman horses and fine cattle are kept by the progressive proprietor.

In 1884 Thomas W. Esmond and Miss Anna Moore were united in marriage. They have had four children, namely: Oakley W., Roy M., Dale B., and a little daughter, Elva E., who died at the age of five years. Mrs. Esmond's parents, David and Elizabeth (McClure) Moore, were natives of Beaver county, Pennsylvania, and came to this county in 1855, locating in Waltham township.

Mr. Esmond has never sought nor held public office, his preference being for a quiet, domestic life and his time given to his houshold and private affairs. For greater freedom and liberty of action he has remained unidentified with political party organizations, using his vote independently, and in the late presidential campaign he declared for free silver. He possesses the high regard of all who are acquainted with him, and his word is considered to be as good as his bond.

JOHN D. VETTE.

Though now nearing the eighty-second anniversary of his birth, John D. Vette, an honored old citizen of Ottawa, is remarkably well preserved and has the use of all his faculties. He and his estimable wife celebrated their golden wedding day on the 2d of September, 1896, and the pleasant occasion will be long remembered by the participants, children, grandchildren, other relatives and family friends who were present, and who

brought to the venerable couple substantial tokens of love and a multitude of kind wishes for their continued health and happiness.

A son of Charles and Angeline (Brindensek) Vette, both of whom were natives of Germany, the subject of this sketch was born July 2, 1817, in the province of Hesse-Schaumburg. Following in his father's calling, John D. served an apprenticeship of three years at the blacksmith's trade. During this period he was given his board but received no wages and had to furnish his own clothing. For some time he then worked as a journeyman, and the last place where he was thus employed was at Hanover. On the 15th of March, 1843, he embarked on a sailing vessel at Bremen and eight weeks later he landed at New York. Thence he proceeded by steamer to Albany, by the canal to Buffalo and by a sailing boat to Chicago, and was, altogether, six weeks in making the journey which can now be made in less than eighteen hours. He arrived in Chicago, June 29, 1843, and found the place but a scattering town, with little promise of the great future in store for her. In 1847 the parents of our subject came to this country and located on a farm in Cook county, not far from Chicago, at a place called Schaumburg, where many other families from the same neighborhood in Germany had settled. There the parents resided until their death. After coming to Chicago John D. spent about six weeks on farms in the vicinity, during the harvesting season, after which he worked at his trade as a blacksmith, in company with a man named S. Bainard.

It was in 1845 that Mr. Vette came to Ottawa, and for three years he was in the employ of the same man with whom he had been associated in Chicago. Our subject then started a shop of his own on a small scale, on Columbus street, near the Palmer wagon factory, and for several years his trade consisted chiefly of shoeing the horses used on the canal. As time passed he prospered, as he deserved to do, and in 1857 he erected a large two-story-and-basement brick building on Superior street, the cost thereof being six thousand dollars. The main wing was eighty by forty-five feet in dimensions. As soon as the building was completed the owner commenced to manufacture wagons and continued in this business for almost half a century. The workmanship, material used and everything connected with the Vette wagons was of the best, and all through this region and the surrounding counties the products of the factory managed by our subject came into great demand. Mr. Vette employed from ten to fifteen men steadily and was as faithful in the payment of their wages and in the recognition of their rights as he always was in meeting his larger bills and responsibilities. In 1896 he retired, having amassed a competence for old age, and having long since conquered the difficulties which he had at first experienced as a stranger in a strange land.

When he received his right of franchise Mr. Vette voted for James K. Polk, and sided with the Democratic party, but after the organization of the Republicans he identified himself with their political body, and has voted for its nominees down to and including McKinley.

Mr. Vette married Miss Wilhelmina C. Ghiske, a native of Germany, born August 16, 1825, the ceremony which united their destinies being solemnized in Cook county, September 2, 1846. Five children blessed their union, namely: Charlotte, wife of August Engel; John F.; Sophronia J., who married E. Engel; Amelia and Julia C. John F., the only son, a practical and skilled business man and mechanic, has been connected with the famous Peter Schuttler wagon factory in Chicago, in the capacity of foreman, for the past twenty years.

REV. N. J. LOCKREM.

Rev. N. J. Lockrem is a well known resident of Norway, LaSalle county, and although still a young man has laid the foundation for a life of usefulness that will cause his name to be remembered with gratitude by the many who have come under his administration. He is one of the able ministers of the Lutheran church and has charge of three organizations of that denomination in this county, and his services in connection therewith have been attended with marked success. His field of usefulness is also extended to educational lines and he is the founder of a Lutheran college in Ottawa.

Rev. Mr. Lockrem was born in Norway, mentioned above, on the 27th of November, 1863, and is a son of Jorgen Lockrem, a farmer of that locality. He acquired his primary education in the schools of Norway and when quite young emigrated to the United States, where he worked on a farm and engaged in teaching in order to earn the means to continue his studies. He subsequently added to his knowledge by studying in Chicago and at theological seminaries in Minnesota and Chicago, and after being prepared for his chosen life work, was ordained for the ministry in Fox River church, in Illinois, on July 12, 1893. He has shown himself to be a speaker of force and ability and of marked oratorical power. His discourses are eloquent, but he also made his audiences through logical, well expressed thoughts which won for him sympathetic attention. Gradually the thought of the need of Christian education took possession of him and resulted in the establishment of the Lutheran College at Ottawa and was the first one to propose the establishment of a school of this nature in this district. He also had an extensive acquaintance with schools of a higher

instruction and is well qualified for leadership in this work. Speaking of the matter to a friend who asked him what circumstances led to the establishment of the school, he said:

"I noticed that the people in this district were enjoying considerable material prosperity; that in the diligent effort of our people to build up their economic fortunes there was danger of negligence to provide for the mental and spiritual fortunes of the rising generations. This negligence did not grow out of carelessness entirely, but arose largely from the force of circumstances. Although our people rapidly became Americanized, yet they are conservative in matters of religious faith and anxious to have their children retain the elements of faith in the form held by the fathers. They are therefore very careful in their selection of schools to which to send their children. This characteristic I consider as one of the best among our people. It is a fact taught by the history of the church that only those who had clearly defined principles and adhered faithfully to them ever did much positive work in building up the walls of Zion and furthering the best elements of civilization and progress. I knew there was a vast amount of pent-up energy in the minds of the multitudes of our young generation that only required emancipation in order to become a large force in advancing their own best interests and those of humanity at large. To accomplish this desirable end the most effective means would be the establishment of a school in some good center of intelligence and culture in our district. I noticed that communities of our people in other states had tried the same experiment and had been very successful. I accordingly made up my mind to make an attempt in this direction. In the latter half of 1892 I communicated my thoughts to some of my friends privately. I will mention among these particularly, the Rev. Mr. Ellestad, who was a pastor formerly in my present charge, and who was at that time superintendent of missions in the United Norwegian Lutheran church of America. Traveling from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast in the performance of his duties, he had excellent opportunities of observation upon the enterprises and successes of our people everywhere, as well as of knowing their needs. He was well acquainted in this district and expressed the opinion that a school of this nature was strongly in demand. He encouraged me to go forward in my plan. Other friends gave similar encouragement. In Stevens' Grove, on the 4th of July, 1893, I made the first expression of my thoughts to a public audience. Some of the leading men present afterward expressed to me their hearty approval of the thought and encouraged a prosecution of the plan. Later in the fall of the same year, at our semi-annual district meeting, the Rev. Mr. Aarrestad, in introducing the question of the proper education and culture of our young people, took occasion to propound

quite fully the idea of establishing such a school in our midst. At that meeting was appointed the first committee to investigate the matter and take such preliminary movement as its wisdom might dictate."

Thus the idea of the college took root. It has required earnest, arduous and continuous labor to place it upon a firm foundation, but with unremitting zeal Rev. Mr. Lockrem undertook the task and carried it forward to successful completion. To-day it stands as a monument to his Christian zeal, his enterprise and devotion to the needs of the community. The school is now well organized in its various departments and is under the guidance of careful instructors, who give attention not only to the mental development of the pupils but also to their spiritual growth and welfare.

On the 19th of May, 1893, Rev. Mr. Lockrem led to the marriage altar Miss Caroline Bergslie, who was born in Norway and was educated in Chicago. She is a most estimable lady and an invaluable aid to her husband in his work. Two children, a daughter and a son, have been born to them: Gertie Lydia, born January 1, 1896; and Noble Gerhard, born September 19, 1897.

Rev. Mr. Lockrem has few idle moments, but is never so busy but that he finds time to give willing aid to any who come to him for counsel and guidance. He is a man of broad views and is deservedly a favorite with all who have come in contact with him, his strong personality exerting a powerful influence for good.

JAMES M. GATCHELL.

Forty-two years have passed since James M. Gatchell came to LaSalle county, and he has therefore been a witness of the greater part of its development and upbuilding. He has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets grow into thriving towns and cities, and has witnessed the introduction of many and varied business enterprises, including the railroad, the telegraph and the telephone. As an agriculturist he has assisted in reclaiming the wild land for purposes of civilization and is to-day numbered among the leading agriculturists of Brookfield township.

Mr. Gatchell was born in the township of Wales, county of Lincoln, near Bowdoinham, Maine, February 9, 1839, and is a representative of an old family of English origin. His father, Aaron Gatchell, was born March 11, 1800, and was reared in Maine. He married Miss Adah Witterell, of Lincoln county, Maine, and in order to support his family engaged in farming, although he was a sawyer by trade. Nine children were born

of the marriage: Betsy, who is living at Clear Lake, Iowa; Martha, who lives in Richmond, Maine; Isaac, who was a veteran of the civil war and a member of the Grand Army Post at Pontiac, Illinois, and died in Odell, this state; Sewell B., a merchant of Freeport, Illinois; Charles, who is living on the old homestead in Maine; Miss Vesta, who lives in Lynn, Massachusetts; Mellen M., who died in Story, Illinois; Lettice, who died at the age of thirteen years; and James M., who is the subject of this biographical notice. In his political views the father of these children was a Jackson Democrat until Abraham Lincoln became a candidate for the presidency, when he joined the ranks of the Republican party. In his religious views he was a Baptist. He died June 2, 1878, at the age of seventy-eight years, and his wife passed away March 16, 1889, at the age of eighty-one years.

Upon the old homestead farm in Maine James M. Gatchell spent the days of his boyhood and youth, and in the common schools of the neighborhood he acquired his education. When eighteen years of age he bade adieu to home and friends, and leaving the Pine Tree state came to Illinois, locating in LaSalle county, where he has since made his home. On the 14th of August, 1862, however, he put aside all personal considerations to aid his country in her efforts to preserve the Union and became a member of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry, under command of Captain J. J. McHernan, Colonel Moore and Lieutenant Hapeman, of Ottawa. He participated in twenty-one engagements with the enemy, including the battle of Harville, Tennessee, where on the 7th of December, 1862, he was taken prisoner. The following month, however, he was exchanged, and later he took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. In the last named he was slightly wounded, and at the battle of Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, July 21, 1864, he was seriously wounded, which forced him to remain in the hospital for nine months. He was honorably discharged March 4, 1865, and returned to his home in LaSalle county, carrying with him a bullet wound six by eight inches. He had been a soldier loyal and true, and his name deserves a place upon the honored roll of the Union's defenders.

When he had sufficiently recovered his health Mr. Gatchell began farming. In 1866 he located upon a seventy-acre tract of land in Brookfield township, and in 1878 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and forty acres, succeeding James J. McCully in its ownership. This farm is now under a high state of cultivation, being divided into good fields and pasture lands. The house is a modern residence and the farm buildings are in good condition, indicating the careful supervision of a progressive owner.

On the 27th of October, 1867, Mr. Gatchell was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Rose, a representative of a family of high respectability.

She was born in New York and is a daughter of Washington and Maria (Balsh) Rose, both of whom were natives of the Empire state and early settlers of LaSalle county. They had eight children: William Henry, of Brookfield township, LaSalle county; Mrs. Gatchell; Albert D. (1st), deceased; Albert D. (2d), who is living in Brookfield township; Truman D., of Boulder, Colorado; Ellen, who died at the age of ten years; George, who died at the age of thirty-nine years, leaving a widow and five children; and Emma, who died at the age of twenty-seven years. The father's death occurred when he was seventy-three years of age. By occupation he was a farmer, following that pursuit throughout his life. In his political views he was a Republican and in religious faith both he and his wife were Methodists. Mrs. Rose is still living, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Gatchell are the parents of six children, three now living,—Cora Delia, Charles Albert and Chester Edward. Those deceased are William Edward and William James, who died in infancy; and Adah Maria, who died at the age of eighteen months.

Mr. Gatchell has been a stanch Republican since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He has served in several township offices and is now school director. He belongs to Joseph Woodworth Post, No. 281, G. A. R., of Marseilles, and his wife and daughter are members of the Presbyterian church. The family hold a high position in social circles and have the warm regard of all who know them.

JULIUS H. WHEELER.

Mr. Wheeler controls one of the leading industrial concerns of Marseilles, LaSalle county, having been engaged for a number of years in the manufacture of brick and tile at that place. His close application and strong determination, so necessary to a successful business career, have proved potent elements in securing to him a comfortable competence. He came to Illinois from New England, his birth having occurred in Hydeville, Rutland county, Vermont, on the 30th of June, 1853. He is a son of Nicholas and Nancy Ann (Thatcher) Wheeler, the former a native of Rutland county and the latter of Ticonderoga, New York. In their family were two sons and three daughters, namely: Mrs. Nancy Coleman, Julius H., Mrs. Harriet Powell, Mrs. Jennie Bull and Fred H. In 1864 the father removed to Illinois, and his last days were spent in Livingston county, this state, where his death occurred in 1866.

Julius H. Wheeler acquired his education in the public schools of that county, to which place he accompanied his parents when about nine years of

age. There he grew to man's estate and in 1895 he took charge of the brick and tile factory in which he has since carried on an extensive business, his patronage steadily increasing. He finds a ready market for his products, owing to their excellent quality, and the output of the factory is now very large. The plant was established some twenty years ago, by Mr. Layman, and is now the best equipped factory in this part of Illinois. The annual returns are two thousand dollars each season, and the superior quality of the brick sold insures a continuous demand.

Mr. Wheeler entered the matrimonial state on the 22d of December, 1874, his bride being Miss Ida, daughter of S. M. Rodgers. Seven children have blessed their union, namely: Fred E., born December 3, 1875; Elmer A., February 1, 1877; Ernest R., March 7, 1881; Lucy A., July 19, 1883; Ida May, who was born August 8, 1886, and died at the age of one year, eight months and nine days; Harry E., born April 23, 1893; and Elma E., born September 22, 1895.

Mr. Wheeler is a prominent member of Shabbona Camp, No. 258, Modern Woodmen of America. In his political adherency he is a Republican. He is one of the most enterprising business men of the county, and is public-spirited and liberal, contributing in many ways to the growth and upbuilding of the community.

JOHN BOWEN.

John Bowen, a son of the pioneer, Hiram Bowen, will form the subject of this memoir. He was born in Kane county, Illinois, February 8, 1839, reared and educated a farmer boy and now owns and manages the old family homestead. In his youth he attended school and improved his every opportunity to acquire knowledge. His first impressions were that school was a good place for a boy and that study was one process of mind development and culture. His favorite study was mathematics, and he was not only a master of this branch himself while in school, but he also had time to aid the larger pupils and frequently the teacher, as well. At twenty years of age Mr. Bowen was obliged to quit school and take a permanent and continuous interest in farming. As time went on and his financial position became more independent he turned his attention to cattle-feeding and still later to buying and shipping live stock, and he remained in this lucrative business for many years.

Mr. Bowen remained a single man until December, 1898, when he married Susan Edwinson, the daughter of a Norwegian school teacher. Mrs. Bowen is forty-two years of age and is a native of the United States.

Our subject's identity with political matters has been confined to voting. He has never cared to hold public office,—in fact is not constructed in the lines necessary for a public servant. He is one of the well posted men, historically, of the town, and while he may have no particular pride on that account it is certainly a source of great satisfaction to him to be able to recall, with accuracy, the important events that have entered into the history of our country and speak of them as if they were of the living present. He has strong convictions on political questions, which his own experience and study warrant him in defending. His first presidential vote was cast for the martyred Lincoln, and his last for William McKinley, who he believes ranks with the first president of the Republican party in statesmanship and patriotism. He believes in the policy of expansion practiced by the present administration and forced upon it by existing circumstances connected with the late Spanish war. Defensive expansion, in the interests of humanity, is a national virtue that is entirely novel, and one in which the United States has the distinction of being the pioneer, thinks Mr. Bowen. These conclusions are not arrived at by mere speculation and fanciful theories, but by a good knowledge of the history of all nations and the light of an advanced Christian civilization.

FRIDTHGOF G. ARNTZEN.

Fridthgof George Arntzen, a retired merchant of Serena, was born in the parish of Flagstad in the northern part of Norway, December 19, 1847. His father, Andrew Arntzen, was a merchant, and our subject was reared and trained in that line of business. At the age of nineteen years he left school and became a bookkeeper in the office of a merchant at Bergen, Norway. Upon finishing his engagement there, in 1869, he joined a company of young people who were emigrating to the United States. He embarked from Bergen on the sailing vessel Valkyren, bound for Quebec, and after five long weeks of water journey he landed, on the 16th of June. He continued his journey by rail to Chicago, went to Wisconsin and found work on a farm that fall and winter. He had heard so many roseate accounts of the south that he went to Mississippi, where he secured work on a plantation. This was too far south for a man born in sight of an iceberg and reared in the pure air of pine-and-hemlock-perfumed Norway; so, by the middle of the following December, he made his way back to Chicago. In the spring of 1871 he came to LaSalle county, Illinois, and clerked for a time in the village of Norway. He came to Serena, March 13 of that year, and then began clerking for Mason & Schlenbusch, and later for Mr. Mason.

In 1882 Mr. Arntzen succeeded Mr. Mason, by purchase, and conducted a general merchandise business just ten years, retiring in 1892.

The date of Mr. Arntzen's marriage was June 27, 1882. He chose for his companion Henrietta, a daughter of John D. Hoxsey. The latter was born in Williamstown, Massachusetts, August 3, 1812, and came to Illinois about 1840, settling in Serena, and became one of her prosperous and progressive citizens. He was a fine business man and became, in general standing, one of the first men in the place. He died February 23, 1881. His wife was by maiden name Elizabeth Beem. Their children were: Henry, who died in the army during the civil war period; Frances E., deceased; Henrietta, born April 10, 1849; Fremont; Lincoln; Fannie E., the wife of Ed. S. Jacobs. Mrs. Hoxsey died October 27, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Arntzen are the parents of John Decatur, born 1883; Mary E., born in 1884; and Richard, born in 1891.

In national matters Mr. Arntzen has identified himself with the Republican party. By his strict attention to business, as well as by his dealings with his neighbors and friends, he has shown himself to be a gentleman of the first order and one worthy of the confidence of the public. He adopted American ways and habits and early became as thorough an American as if born in this country. He has never sought nor favored publicity for himself, preferring to remain a quiet and modest man of affairs. Unlike many other foreign-born people, the Scandinavians come gracefully under the flag of this nation and prefer to become as one among us. They are a portion of the best of our adopted brotherhood.

HON. JOHN McLAUCHLAN.

"Honest John McLauchlan," as he is familiarly called by his numerous friends and admirers, is now acting as a representative in the state legislature from the twenty-seventh senatorial district of Illinois. He is a man who comes from the ranks of toil and whose proudest boast is that he is of and for the working men. By his own exertions and indefatigable energy he has educated himself, becoming well informed upon the great questions of the day, and by his intimate acquaintance with the problems and needs of the toilers and masses is enabled to speak with authority in their behalf.

The ancestors of our subject, upon both the paternal and maternal lines, were purely Celtic in origin. His parents, Daniel and Elizabeth (McCrae) McLauchlan, were natives of Scotland, the former coming from the agricultural class and the latter's relatives being more given to mechanics and trades. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject operated the second

John McLauchlan

blasting engine ever used in Scotland in the smelting of iron. In his early manhood Daniel McLauchlan was engaged in agriculture, but later he turned his attention to iron-mining and devoted himself to that line of business for over a quarter of a century. Both he and his wife died in their native land, where they had led worthy, upright lives.

John McLauchlan, whose birth occurred January 27, 1840, is one of seven children who attained maturity, and is the only representative of the family in America. He attended school until he was ten years of age only, and was then obliged to begin learning how to mine iron ore. He worked industriously at this calling in Scotland until 1869, when he came to the United States, hoping to better his condition and to enjoy the blessings of a free country. At first he made his home in Pennsylvania, whence he came to Illinois early in the '70s, and since the Centennial year he has dwelt in LaSalle, with the interests of which community he is actively identified. For five years after coming here he was, as formerly, occupied in mining. In the spring of 1881 he was elected a supervisor of LaSalle township, and has served in that capacity ever since. He is strongly in favor of the principles of the Democratic party and is a believer in free silver. In 1894 he was elected to the legislature, and upon the expiration of his term was honored by re-election in 1896, and again in 1898. As may be surmised, he is particularly active in labor organizations and in all movements which he believes will benefit the laboring class.

Before leaving his native land, Mr. McLauchlan married Miss Sibelle McBeth, who died in Pennsylvania in 1871. The only child of this union, Daniel McLauchlan, is now living in Indian Territory. In 1873 our subject was married, in Illinois, to Miss Mary Arbuckle, who was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and whose death occurred in 1891. She left three sons and a daughter to mourn her loss, namely: Robert, James, Andrew, and Katie. In 1893 Mr. McLauchlan married Elizabeth Fleming, who was born in England and came to the United States with her parents when two years of age. Her father, William Fleming, was an early settler and a successful farmer of Dimmick township.

HENRY K. PARR.

This widely known and popular retired agriculturist of Serena belongs to one of the earliest families, who made up the vanguard in the settlement of LaSalle county. He was born in Rutland township, this county, December 22, 1830. His father, William Parr, was born in Licking county, Ohio, reared there and brought up to do farm labor. He came to LaSalle county

in October, 1830, and at once began to subdue the new prairie country by the improvement of his farm. Being the offspring of a sturdy foreigner, he inherited an industrious disposition. His father was an Irishman, of the working class, just the station from which to select material for good citizenship in a free land.

William Parr married Sally Trumbo, whose people were numbered among LaSalle county's settlers before the Indian tribes had yet forsaken the territory. They were Alsatian people, speaking probably the French tongue, and their descendants are numerous and prominent in the county to-day. William Parr passed from the scenes of earth in 1859, and his good wife in 1896. Their children were: Henry K.; Isabel, deceased, who married Orson Potter; Samuel Parr, of Ottawa; Mary, the wife of Samuel Groves, of Utica; and John, deceased.

Henry K. Parr's childhood was at a time when playmates were scarce, and therefore he became intimate with the little Indian boys, while his school days were passed in the old-time log cabin, where he underwent about as great development from the pure air and hickory gad as he did from the open text-book before him on the primitive slab desk. When it is remembered that there was but one other white family on the north side of the Illinois river between Ottawa and Chicago, one can form some idea how much nature had to do with the early training of our subject.

Mr. Parr began life for himself in Rutland township of this county, where, September 8, 1853, he married Elsie, a daughter of J. S. Armstrong, being the first native-born LaSalle county people to be married here. His beginning in life was very modest. A log cabin, a stove and the plainest of home-made furniture, being the only ornaments his farm home possessed. He came to Serena in the excessively cold and snowy month of January, 1855, and located on what is now known as one of the ideal farms of the township. He owns a half-section farm, from which he retired in 1890.

Mrs. Parr died February 9, 1889. Her children were: Florence May, the wife of Walter D. Strawn, of Ottawa, Illinois; Ida D., the wife of James W. Hupp, of McCook, Nebraska; Cora D., the wife of W. B. Miller, of Chicago; Estella, the wife of Dr. Logan, of Aurora, Illinois; and John S., deceased, who married Laura Leonard. Our subject's second wife was Mrs. Mary Maar, a sister of John Louis Marshall, of Serena. They were married in 1891. Mrs. Parr's first husband was John Maar, who died leaving three daughters, viz., Mary, Rosie and Lizzie.

Be it said to his credit, Mr. Parr has ever done his share toward the public service of his town. He has filled the offices of town clerk, assessor, justice of the peace and commissioner. Politically he is a "naturally born" Democrat and as he remarked to one interviewing him, "I was chopped

out of a basswood log and fed on Democratic nourishment and breathed the Democratic air." Indeed it is as natural for him to be a Democrat as it is for a duck to take to water. He is outspoken and plain; everybody knows his views, and where he stands, and he expresses himself in the vernacular—adjective, expletives and all—common to the time of his bringing up.

George Galloway, born in 1827; H. K. Parr, born in 1830, and H. H. Holdridge, born in 1831, were the first three white male children born in LaSalle county. They remained in it to be fifty years of age and had their pictures taken together in 1883!

HENRY BOWEN.

Henry Bowen, the supervisor of the town of Serena and one of the most thrifty and prominent tillers of LaSalle county soil, was born in Kane county, Illinois, December 16, 1834. His father was one of the truly pioneer band in this state, coming to its broad and fertile domain in 1833. He hailed from Washington county, New York, reaching Illinois before the government had yet sectionized the land. He took a claim and resided on the same until the year 1845, when he came to LaSalle county and settled on a farm in Mission township. He possessed moderate means when he left his native state and was considered a well-to-do man in Illinois. He devoted his time and tact to farming, and no political or other movement attracted him in the least. The nominees of the Whig party constituted his ticket, but he never suffered his name to be up for local office.

The Bowen family originally came from Wales. Samuel Bowen, our subject's grandfather, was born in the state of New York, of Welsh parentage. The exact advent to America is not known, but it is nearly certain that it was prior to our Revolutionary conflict. Hiram Bowen, the father of our subject, was forty-nine years of age at the time of his death, in 1854. He married Olive Niles, of Bennington, Vermont, and she departed this life in 1883. Her children were Henry, John and Thomas. The last named served as a member of the Thirty-sixth Illinois Infantry in the army of the Tennessee, during the civil war. He participated in the heavy engagements at Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, etc., exposure during which injured his health so that he died early in life's career.

Mr. Bowen spent his youthful days upon his father's farm, and besides obtaining a good practical knowledge of the successful management of the same he acquired, at the common district school, a somewhat limited knowledge of the common branches of learning. As he briefly puts it, "Experience has been my best teacher." He located on his present fine farm about

1850, and in its wild state began the long years of ceaseless toil, by which he has made it one of the best equipped farms in the town. He owns a four-hundred-acre tract here and a six-hundred-acre tract near Hastings, Nebraska.

Every true American citizen has his political party choice, and in the case of our subject he affiliates with the Republican party. About 1883 he was elected the supervisor of his town and has served ever since. He was a member of the board of supervisors during the time the county buildings were being constructed,—the court house, jail, and county asylum,—and his suggestions were then and are now a valuable aid in the proper conduct of the business of the public. He is the capable secretary of the Farmers' Insurance Company, capitalized at one million dollars, and it is doing a good business in LaSalle county.

The death angel visited the home of our subject in 1871, claiming Mrs. Bowen, to whom he was united in marriage in 1869. Mrs. Martha Bowen was the daughter of Jesse Davidson, who came to Illinois from Ohio. By her death she left a daughter, Harriet, now the wife of Thomas Duffy, of Serena.

CHARLES H. HOAG.

Charles H. Hoag, of Serena, was born in Delaware county, New York, May 18, 1821, was reared and obtained his education in his native state and learned to farm from his father. His father, Amos Hoag, was born on Quaker Hill, on the line between Connecticut and New York. He married Elizabeth Haynes. In his politics he was originally a Whig but later a Republican; and he died in 1856. Mr. and Mrs. Amos Hoag were the parents of the following children: Albert, who died in LaSalle county, in 1851; George, who died in Serena, in 1869; Mark, who died in 1884; Charles H.; Henry, who died in 1856; Cynthia, deceased; Cyrus, of Delaware county, New York; and Jane, deceased. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Timothy Hoag, was a farmer, of the good old Quaker faith, and died in Columbia county, New York. His wife was a Miss Weed, and one of their children, Gilbert, came west and died in LaSalle county, Illinois.

Charles H. Hoag came to Illinois when twenty-eight years of age, hoping to find a broader field with better opportunities for gaining a competency than the overcrowded east then afforded. Illinois was already known as the "garden spot of the west." But before permanently locating he spent four years in Michigan, going to that state in 1845, stopping in St. Joseph county, where he was married, in 1847, to Hellen Robinson; and they came to LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1849, by wagon, and settled on a rented farm

in Dayton township and began life in earnest. After four years of steady toil he purchased the farm he still owns, adjoining the town plat of Serena. Here forty-six years of his life have been spent. Being public-spirited he has ever done his share toward the upbuilding of his home town. In politics he of whom we write was first a Whig and later entered the Republican ranks. He has held many local offices of trust, including town and school offices.

Mr. Hoag's first wife died in 1856, being the mother of three children—Mary, wife of Leonidas Fread; Clara, who married Albert Fread, deceased; and William, deceased. Mr. Hoag's second wife was Mary Wells, who died in 1891. Their children were: Lincoln, of Boston, Massachusetts; George, who died in Texas; Lillie, the wife of Walter Carter, of Serena; Cyrus, who died in Kansas, in 1889; Franklin, of Serena; Alvin, of Serena; Adam, who married Josephine Beckwith and lives in Serena; and Maud, the wife of C. B. Stockholm, also of Serena.

In the settlement of every new country there are a large number of the early pioneers who do not remain long, but move on in search of greener pastures and not unfrequently make the mistake of their lives. Not so with Mr. Hoag; for he has remained through the long years until almost a half century has slipped by. He has been afflicted by the cruel hand of death, bereaving him of many of his loved ones, yet he has taken the manly view of life's realities and is now enjoying the fruit of his long years of toil and frugal management. It is such men as Mr. Hoag who contribute much toward the advancement of this great west to its present high state of development.

JOHN S. CLAYTON.

The gentleman whose name appears at the head of this article is a representative of one of the oldest and best known families in Deer Park township, LaSalle county, Illinois, and was born on the farm on which he now resides, June 18, 1837. His father being a well-to-do farmer, John S. in his youth was given good educational advantages. He has all his life given his attention to agricultural pursuits. Now he is carrying on both general farming and a live-stock business, buying, feeding, and shipping stock to the Chicago market.

Mr. Clayton has in his veins a mixture of English and German blood and counts among his ancestors men of sterling worth. His father, William Clayton, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1806, of English parents, and spent the early years of his life in Brooke county, Virginia, now West Virginia, coming from there in 1834 to Illinois. Here he bought several hundred acres of land, including the famous "Deer Park," and although

he owned much other land he made this his home until his death, in 1885. When the town was organized he was made its first supervisor. He owned a large tract of land in Iroquois county, Illinois, and in his later life he built a town upon it and called it Claytonville. He retired from business at an advanced age and during the closing years of his life made his home with his son John S. In early life he was a Free-soil Democrat, but became a Republican when that party was organized. He was a strong Abolitionist at the time when that question was a vital one. In stature he was about five feet and eight inches; his weight, one hundred and sixty pounds. His wife, nee Elizabeth Puntney, died in 1873. She was of German and English descent, and lived a life of good deeds. Like her husband, she inclined toward Universalism, but really never got very far away from true Methodism. Her children were: James W., who was robbed and murdered near Denver in 1874; Sarah E., deceased, who was the wife of David Dick; Unity A., deceased; Carrie, now Mrs. J. C. Reynolds; William R.; John S.; George W., who was murdered near Fredericksburg, Texas, in 1871; Ellen C., the wife of Captain S. A. Lodge, of Monticello, Illinois; and Manning U., deceased.

In December, 1861, John S. Clayton was married to Julia A. Surdam, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Surdam, who came to Illinois from Connecticut. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton's three children are Grant F., D. O., a graduate of the American School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Missouri; he is now successfully practicing his profession in Chadron, Nebraska; Charles S., now a student in the Pacific School of Osteopathy and Infirmary at Los Angeles, California; and Glennie A., who married Charles G. Piercy, and both are living with her parents in Deer Park township.

Mr. Clayton has affiliated with the Republican party since attaining his majority, and has been one of the promoters of its interest and welfare as a private citizen.

MRS. JANE S. LIBBEY.

Mrs. Jane S. Libbey, one of the pioneers of LaSalle county and well known in Ottawa and vicinity, is the widow of Francis Libbey, who during his last years was numbered among the most progressive agriculturists of this section. He was born near Portland, Maine, in 1815, and in his early manhood came to the west, where he believed that greater opportunities for advancement awaited him.

After residing for some time in Alton, Illinois, Mr. Libbey came to Ottawa, and here his destiny was united with that of Miss Jane S. Brown, their marriage taking place in 1849. Mrs. Libbey is a daughter of the Hon.

Charles Brown, who was one of the earliest settlers of this county. He located on a claim just south of Ottawa in 1830, and during the Black Hawk war served in a company of home guards. The old homestead, now owned and managed by Mrs. Libbey, comprises four hundred and sixty-six acres of the most valuable and productive land around Ottawa.

To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Libbey five children were born,—three daughters and two sons. Elnora married William C. Griffith, who died in Indianapolis, Indiana, and their four children are Frank, Harry, Howard and William. Lucy, the second daughter, became the wife of W. C. Riale, an Ottawa business man, and they have one child, named Florence. Josephine is the wife of Frank A. Kendall, of Cherokee, Iowa, and has five children,—Fanny, Grace, Edith, Josephine and Burton. Wallace, whose home is at Farm Ridge, LaSalle county, chose Miss Ida Watts, of Alton, Illinois, for his wife, and their children are Bessie J., Esther and Ellen. Howard married Miss Florence Smith, of Fall River, LaSalle county, their home is at LaPlata, Missouri, and their two sons are Harrold and Donald. Mr. and Mrs. Libbey gave their children good educational advantages, and equipped them for the battle of life as far as was in their power. Mr. Libbey used his franchise in favor of the Democratic party, but was not a politician in any sense of the word. Death called him from his labors when he was still in his prime, being but forty-nine years of age. He left an honored name, and a record of which his children and posterity may justly be proud.

WILLIAM D. GRUBER.

There is a saying that "a prophet is not without honor except in his own country." Soldiers, however, as such always have honor in their own country; and everywhere in this country the man who risked his life in defense of the Union is held in honor, and when a veteran dies the whole community is moved by one common feeling of sorrow. LaSalle county has its proportion of these old heroes, who have fought for their country as young men and have given the best years of their subsequent lives to its development, and none of them is more highly regarded than William D. Gruber, who is not only a veteran of our civil war, but also an early settler and prominent citizen of Farm Ridge township.

Mr. Gruber was born in Preble county, Ohio, March 21, 1837, a son of Rev. Jacob Gruber, who was for forty years, until his death, one of the most influential and most highly respected citizens of Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county. Mr. Gruber's ancestors came from France to Pennsylvania in 1670, on account of the cruel persecutions to which the Huguenot Chris-

tians were subjected after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Christian Gruber, father of Rev. Jacob Gruber, was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, August 3, 1767. He married Catharine Metzsger, a native of Union county, Pennsylvania. They were the parents of fifteen children,—eight boys and seven girls: John, born March 8, 1800; Jacob, November 10, 1801; Henry, December 22, 1803; Philip, June 5, 1806; Elizabeth, May 26, 1808; Mary, June 23, 1810; Joseph, December 31, 1812; Catharine, April 29, 1815; George, September 17, 1817; Susanna, March 9, 1819; Sarah, October 27, 1820; Christena, October 25, 1822; Christian, December 29, 1824; Daniel, April 12, 1827; and Samuel, April 12, 1829. George, Samuel and Daniel were soldiers in the Mexican war, George being killed at the storming of the city of Mexico. Samuel was wounded in the same battle, and died before he reached home. Daniel is the only survivor.

In 1804 Mr. and Mrs. Gruber removed to Pickaway county, Ohio. (He served in the war of 1812.) Jacob Gruber having been born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, November 10, 1801, was at that time three years old. He lived in Pickaway county, Ohio, until 1856, when he came to LaSalle county, Illinois, and settled on a farm of two hundred and sixty-two acres, much of which he improved and placed under profitable cultivation; and that he retains most of it will be apparent when it is considered that this same farm is the one upon which he spent his declining years, containing two hundred and ten acres of land. He married Susan Emrick, a native of Montgomery county, Ohio, March 4, 1830. Mrs. Gruber died April 17, 1878, leaving seven children: Amanda M., Melusena E., William D., Sarah Victoria, Milton L., Joseph L., and Samuel H. Mr. Gruber was married a second time July 15, 1879, to Elizabeth Runbarger, who was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, January 9, 1826. He was ordained a minister of the Evangelical Lutheran church in 1828. He was a Democrat and a Freemason and a man of much public spirit. His death occurred in Grand Ridge, January 19, 1895.

William D. Gruber, the eldest son of the Rev. Jacob and Susan (Emrick) Gruber, received a good education and has been a student and a diligent reader all his life, as well as a close observer of men and events. He has much artistic and mechanical talent and acquired knowledge of, and for some years devoted himself to, the marble-cutter's trade. In 1862 he enlisted in the Eighty-eighth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for service against the south in the civil war, and participated in the battles of Perryville and Stone River and in other engagements and skirmishes of less note and in the siege of Vicksburg. He lost the sense of sight in one eye and the sense of hearing in one ear and for a time was detailed to duty as a clerk at headquarters, for which his education and experiences fitted him. When,

September 7, 1864, he was mustered out of the service, he had taken part in twenty-six engagements, some of them among the most notable of the war, and had an excellent record as a soldier.

Mr. Gruber interested himself in education, and was for some time one of the most popular teachers in his part of the country. Since he left the school-room his interest in public education has not diminished, and he has been a life-long advocate of and worker for improvements in the schools of his township and county. His home is one of the most inviting in its vicinity and he and his family have always dispensed a most generous hospitality. His farm abounds in fruits and vegetables in great variety, including many varieties of strawberries. The lawn surrounding his large residence is shaded by many ornamental trees and beautified with shrubs and flowering plants of various kinds, including forty kinds of roses alone.

Mr. Gruber was married in 1867 to Miss Caroline A. Von Forell, who was born at Buffalo, New York, October 26, 1848, a daughter of Captain Adolph Von Forell, a German military officer and a member of one of the noblest families of Desseldorf, who married Augusta Schmeiding, a lady of good family and thorough education, and soon afterward came to America and took up his residence in Buffalo. Later he removed with his family to Illinois and still later to Nebraska, where he died aged sixty-nine. His wife, now seventy-three, lives in Thayer county, Nebraska. They were life-long members of the Lutheran church. Of their nine children eight are living: Adolph, Fredrick, Henry, Ernest, Mrs. Gruber, August, Charles and Julius. Bertha is dead. Mr. and Mrs. William D. Gruber have nine children: Oscar, who married Miss Louisa Schurer (now deceased), lives near Fort Dodge, Iowa; Augusta, wife of C. I. Woodward, a well known farmer of Farm Ridge township; Charles, who lives at Iowa Falls, Iowa; Milton, not married, who is living in Farm Ridge township; Florence, of Grand Ridge; Arthur, at home; and Susan, Sarah and Mary, at their parental home.

ISAAC F. MASON.

Among the representative farmers of LaSalle county, Illinois, certainly one of the most progressive and popular is the gentleman whose history it is our privilege and pleasure to present on this page. He was born May 9, 1857, on the old Mason homestead in this county, and has grown to man's estate among the friends who have known and loved him from boyhood. His father, Joseph Mason, was born in the state of Ohio, and there remained until he had reached mature years, when he came to Illinois and here was married to Mrs. Rosanna Pickens, a sister of Captain J. J. McKernan, who

was a well known resident and an early settler of this locality. She had first married Henry Pickens and become the mother of two children,—Maranda, now deceased, and Celestia Jane. Mr. Pickens died six years previous to the marriage of his widow to Mr. Mason. By the latter marriage there were five children, namely: Isaac F., our subject, and James, twins; Justice, who died in childhood; Luella, also deceased; and Joseph F. When Isaac was about seven years of age his father died, and his widow took for her third husband Mr. Henry Slater.

Isaac F. Mason received his educational training in the public schools and early learned habits of industry and thrift which have been characteristic of his entire life. His attention has been given to farming and his farm of four hundred acres is so well improved and cared for that it is sure of attracting attention, even from the most casual observer. The residence is a large, pleasant one, and the barn, the main part of which is thirty-two by thirty-two, has an L of almost equal size, thirty-two by thirty, furnishing ample room for stock and grain. Another feature, seldom found on private grounds, but none the less desirable, is a large reservoir, which is well stocked with fish, from which a mess of the finny tribe can be transferred to the owner's table on short notice.

He was married September 4, 1879, to Miss Jennie Fair, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of John Fair. Her father died in his fifty-eighth year and her mother when one year younger. Mrs. Mason was one of nine children, eight of whom are living, viz.: Samuel C., Wesley, Mary Robinson, Ella Williamson, Jennie Mason, William, Emma, and Cora. Mr. and Mrs. Mason are the parents of five children, namely: Arthur F., a young man of nineteen; Bessie J., a school-girl of fourteen; Isaac R., who is in his eighth year; Zelma, a child of two summers; and Letha, an infant that died at the age of eleven months. Mr. Mason is a Republican in his political proclivities. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and one of the most highly esteemed residents of this county.

A. H. SMITH.

A. H. Smith, editor of the leader, Earlville, Illinois, dates his birth in the town in which he now lives, December 9, 1868, and is a son of Charles M. and Mary C. Smith. Charles M. Smith was a man well known throughout this locality and was recognized as an authority on horses. He was a breeder of trotting horses, took great delight in the turf, and acted as judge at many a race.

A. H. Smith was early taught the value of a dollar and that it required

work to get it, and when a mere boy he began saving a part of his earnings. The small amount thus saved and put out at interest later gave him a start in business. He received a common-school education in Earlville, which he followed with a commercial course in the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Illinois. In 1886 he entered the employ of the Earlville Leader, with which he was connected at that time for two years. He then went to Chicago and secured a position as job printer in a large concern, where he obtained a valued experience in all kinds of job printing and where he remained two years. Returning to Earlville at the end of that time, he and his brother, Charles M. Smith, Jr., purchased the Earlville Leader, which they successfully conducted together until 1893, when the subject of this sketch bought out his brother's interest in the paper. Since that date he has been the sole proprietor. The Leader has always been conducted on independent principles, and under the efficient management of Mr. Smith has prospered and largely increased in circulation.

While in Chicago, December 18, 1889, Mr. Smith married Miss Fannie Dumond, of Earlville, and they have two children, Marjory and Bryce.

CHRISTIAN STEINMAYER.

The German character is in all communities influential for good upon business prosperity because its conspicuous qualities are thrift, industry, perseverance and integrity, the four corner-stones of all stable financial and industrial structures. LaSalle, Illinois, has its German contingent and is duly appreciative of it and of what it has done for the town, and there are few, if any, of this worthy class of citizens who are more highly regarded in business and social circles than the man whose name forms the caption of this article.

Christian Steinmayer was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, January 6, 1854, a son of Christopher and Lena (Horwarth) Steinmayer, and is the last of his father's family, his only sister having died in Germany. In his native land he gained an education equivalent to a high-school education in America and learned the machinist's trade and worked at it there until 1874, when, at the age of twenty, he came to the United States and after living one year in Chicago, located at LaSalle, where he was employed as a machinist by Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Company until 1878, in which year he was made foreman of this concern's machine shop. This position Mr. Steinmayer held until 1887.

In April of the year last mentioned Mr. Steinmayer, with others, organized the LaSalle Pressed Brick Company, which engaged in the manufacture

of pressed brick from clay found in LaSalle township. Success has attended the enterprise, and the factory has been increased until it is now three times its original size. The business has witnessed a steady increase, until the products of the factory have reached an annual output of over four millions of brick. The company manufacture plain, moulded and ornamental pressed brick, standard and Roman sizes, in red, buff, brown, pink, and other colors and find ready sale for the output, shipping to many points in the northwest, including Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, and to more distant points in the Dakotas and other western states. Mr. Steinmayer, the president of the company, has been in charge of its interests from the day of its beginning, and the success it has achieved under his management reflects the greatest credit on his ability to organize and build up a big enterprise.

In 1876 Mr. Steinmayer married Catharine Feurer, who likewise was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and who has borne him seven children, six of whom are living. He regards his success in life modestly, and does much quiet and effective work for the public good. He takes no active interest in politics, but has decided views on all public questions, and performs his duty as a citizen, unfailingly and conscientiously.

WILLIAM ROE.

This is the age of the young man, and young men have come to the front in these last years of the nineteenth century who will give an impetus to commerce, to science, to education, to professional success and to moral, literary and religious progress which will make the twentieth century a landmark in the world's history. In our mixed blood is the concentrated spirit of pioneers who loved liberty and were willing to risk their lives for the right and for the opportunity to earn comfort for their wives and their children, and the Scotch strain promises as much for the moral and intellectual future of our country as any other.

William Roe, attorney-at-law, LaSalle, Illinois, was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, August 13, 1868, a son of Thomas and Mary (Jamieson) Roe. His father was of Scotch, his mother of Irish nativity, but Mrs. Roe's father had some Scotch blood in his constitution and had a Scotch name. They came to the United States in November, 1884, and immediately thereafter settled at Oglesby, LaSalle county, Illinois, where Thomas Roe died, in November, 1891, at the age of fifty-eight. His widow is living at LaSalle, now in her sixty-fourth year. Mr. Roe was a coal-miner of many years

William Roe.

experience, a man of reading and intelligence and a patriotic citizen who adapted himself to the American ways and did honor to American citizenship.

When the family came to this county William Roe was sixteen years old. He had left school, in his native land, at the early age of thirteen and began to work in the coal mines. After his arrival at Oglesby he resumed mining in the mines of that vicinity. He spent one year at Spring Valley, where the family lived for that time. In 1891, before he was twenty-three, he began the study of law, reading evenings and working in the mines during the long days. But while he worked he also studied and reasoned and acquired a habit of mind which has since been of much service to him. He was admitted to the bar in December, 1894, and entered upon the practice of his profession at LaSalle early in the succeeding year. His fellow-townsmen know that he has been successful, and they know, too, that he has won by methods honorable and legitimate, with due regard for the law, for the courts and for himself. He is an active citizen, who looks at public questions from the Republican point of view, and takes a helpful interest in every movement for the general good. He is identified with the First Congregational church of LaSalle and is helpfully interested in all its work, and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. Much of his spare time he has devoted to literature, and he is the author of numerous poems of more than ordinary merit. One of these, William Roe's Farewell Address to his Sunday-school Class of the Oglesby Union Church, has had an extensive local circulation and is much admired.

ALBERT H. HATTON, M. D.

For eighteen years this well known physician and surgeon of Peru has been a resident of LaSalle county, actively identified with western interests. Among his professional brethren he ranks high and his ability has gained him prestige, and his devotion to his profession has given him a leading place in the ranks of the representatives of the medical fraternity. In tracing the genealogy of our subject we find that he is descended from a long line of sturdy, intelligent and honorable ancestors, and that in both the lineal and collateral branches the representatives have been prominent in the history of the nation in connection with civil and military affairs of the country.

The first of the name to seek a home in America was Thomas Hatton, who was born in England in 1600 and died in Maryland in 1655. He was descended from Sir Christopher Hatton, a lord chancellor in Queen Elizabeth's reign. In 1648 he bade adieu to the land of his birth and sailed from London for the colonial possessions of England in America. He was the

trusted friend of Lord Baltimore and shortly after his arrival was appointed secretary of the province and privy council. He was closely identified with the interests of Lord Baltimore in Maryland and died in battle during the engagement at the Severn. His descendants are still found in Maryland, Virginia, Ohio and other western states, and have filled many positions of public trust, including a cabinet office and places of high military rank, a representative of the family having been a brigadier general of volunteers.

Forsyth Hatton, the paternal grandfather of the Doctor, was a native of Virginia and by trade was a blacksmith. In 1836 he came to Illinois and forty years later died at his home in Marshall county, at the age of seventy-six years. One of his brothers was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was in action at the battle of New Orleans, and another served in the Mexican war, enlisting in 1847. The grandfather of Forsyth Hatton was a captain in the British army and was serving under General Wolfe when he fell at the battle of Quebec. The father of the Doctor was Andrew Hatton, a native of Rockbridge county, Virginia. He married Artemisia Moulton, who was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, and a daughter of Levi Moulton, who was a native of Kentucky and representative pioneer of Tazewell county. Levi Moulton married Mary Burns, a daughter of Garrett Burns, who was born at Rising Sun, Kentucky, in 1801. Her father was born near Edinburg, Scotland, and was an own cousin of Robert Burns, the well known Scottish bard. In 1786 Garrett Burns came to the United States with his parents, the family locating in eastern Maryland. He, however, started for the western frontier and crossing the Alleghany mountains he cast in his lot with the pioneer settlers in Kentucky, making his home on the Ohio river near Cincinnati. Those were dangerous and troublous times on the frontier and the pioneers were almost constantly warring with the Indians of the territory. During the fall that he arrived on the "dark and bloody ground" Mr. Burns joined the army and through the succeeding seven years was in almost constant service, taking part in many of the hardest-fought engagements with the Indians in the successive campaigns under Generals Harmar, St. Clair and Anthony Wayne. In a hand-to-hand fight with an Indian warrior at the time of St. Clair's defeat, his thumb was cut off by a tomahawk stroke which was aimed at his head, but which he parried with his rifle. Making good his escape he started with two wounded companions through the wild forests for the nearest pioneer settlements. They had no arms except hunting knives, no blankets and no means of making a fire. For three weeks they subsisted on acorns, black cherries and slippery-elm bark and traveled day after day through forests infested by wild animals and still wilder men till they safely arrived at a settlement on the Ohio river. In 1794 Mr. Burns was again under the command of General Wayne in battle

near the Maumee river against the Indians under their famous war chief Little Turtle. This ended in the crushing defeat of the red men and delivered the territory from further depredations by the hostile tribes of Indians. Mr. Burns died in Tazewell county, Illinois, in 1859, at the advanced age of ninety years. Levi Moulton, the maternal grandfather of our subject, came to Tazewell county in 1824, at a time when that section of the state was little better than a veritable wilderness, infested by wolves and Indians. He was a farmer and a prominent man in his settlement and for many years served as justice of the peace. He burned the first brick laid at Fort Clark, now Peoria, Illinois. Being an Abolitionist, politically, he was active in the underground-railway scheme and did all in his power to promote anti-slavery principles. He had a personal acquaintance with Abraham Lincoln when he was an embryo attorney and unknown to fame, and with other prominent men of that day, and was himself regarded as one of the leading citizens in his section of the state. He reared a family of nine children and all four of his sons were soldiers in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion.

Andrew Hatton, the father of the Doctor, came to Illinois in 1836 and died here in 1852, when he was but twenty-five years of age, his death being the result of an accident. In 1849 he purchased a farm in Belle Plain township, Marshall county, of a man who had pre-empted the property from the government. Mrs. Hatton survived her husband some twenty-four years, her death occurring in the year 1876, aged forty-six years. They had but one son and one daughter: the latter, Mary Elizabeth, is now the wife of C. A. Reed, of Davenport, Iowa. The parents were consistent members of the Christian church and possessed the love and high regard of all who knew them.

Born on the old farm in Marshall county, June 4, 1851, Albert Henry Hatton was by death bereft of a father's guidance; but his mother did much to direct the footsteps of the boy as he grew up. His youth was spent on the homestead and his time was divided between the farm work and chores and attendance at the country district schools. In the latter he soon developed an aptitude for study and a great fondness for books. Subsequently he was a student in the Shattuck grammar school at Faribault, Minnesota, and later at Eureka College, at Eureka, Illinois. When he was just past seventeen he commenced teaching, and the following five years found him teaching and going to school alternately, at the end of which time he gave up pedagogy and took up medicine as a profession. After attending a course of lectures at the Eclectic Medical Institute in Cincinnati he returned to Marshall county and practiced at La Rose for about two years. Then he repaired to St. Louis, Missouri, for a final course of lectures, and on

January 27, 1877, was graduated at the American Medical College, as valedictorian of his class. After graduation he resumed practice at La Rose.

A year later he removed to Peru, where he practiced for two years, and then moved to Henry county, this state, where he remained a year. Then he accepted a call to the professorship of anatomy and physiology at his alma mater in St. Louis, and filled the place with credit to himself and satisfaction of the faculty; but at the end of a year he resigned the chair and in August, 1882, returned to Peru and soon had a large business, which he has held to the present time.

After he had been practicing the traditional, empirical method of dealing with disease for about a decade he became convinced that homeopathy was by far the most reasonable system in the field, and he gradually drifted into the same. In 1893 he was graduated at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College, and has since engaged in practice as a homeopathist. He is now a member of the Fox River Institute of Homeopathy, the Illinois State Homeopathic Association and of the American Institute of Homeopathy. His accurate knowledge, his comprehensive reading and his close application to his duties have secured him a leading place among his professional brethren and gained him a reputation which is justly enviable.

On the 4th of March, 1874, Mr. Hatton married Miss Jennie Bangs, the youngest daughter of Samuel L. and Margaret (Howard) Bangs. Samuel L. Bangs was born in Massachusetts and is a lineal descendant of the Puritan Pilgrim Edward Bangs, who came to the Plymouth colony on the ship Anne in 1624. His father and his grandfather were soldiers in the war of the Revolution, on the colonial side. His wife Margret, nee Howard, was born in England and is of the family of Howards so noted in the history of England. Miss Jennie Bangs was born at Lamoille, Bureau county, Illinois, in July, 1851, and at the time of her marriage was a "school-ma'rm" of rare ability and a growing reputation. The Doctor and his wife have four children, named Edward Howard, Fred Hammond, Harry Loomis and Arthur Wilson.

Having taken all the degrees of the York rite, Dr. Hatton has advanced to a high station in Freemasonry. He was made a Mason in Varna Lodge, No. 720, at Varna, Illinois, on February 22, 1878. He is now a past master of St. John's Lodge, No. 13, A. F. & A. M., at Peru; a past eminent commander of St. John's Commandery, No. 26, K. T., stationed also at Peru; is also a member of Marshall Lodge, No. 63, I. O. O. F., at Henry, this state, and of De Soto Lodge, No. 53, K. of P., at LaSalle.

In his political attitude the Doctor is an uncompromising Republican; and in religion he is a member of the Christian church. However, as there is no organization of this body at Peru he has always attended the Con-

gregational church, of which his wife is a member. Both himself and wife have many friends in the community where they reside. He is a man of high intellectuality, broad human sympathies and tolerance, and imbued with fine sensibilities and clearly defined principles. Honor and integrity are synonymous with his name, and he deserves the respect, confidence and high regard of the community.

WILLIAM B. DAVISON.

An energetic, capable business man of Utica is the gentleman of whom this sketch is penned. Public-spirited and deeply interested in whatever affects the general welfare, he is an ideal citizen, prompt in the performance of his duties as such and setting an example worthy of emulation.

The father of our subject, Thomas Davison, was a native of England, where he was reared to manhood. Soon after his marriage to Margaret Blyth he came to the United States and took up his abode in Bradford county, Pennsylvania. In 1857 he removed to LaSalle, Illinois, where for thirty years he was numbered among its representative citizens. In 1887 he went to Chicago to live, but death soon claimed him. His widow is still a resident of that city.

The birth of William B. Davison occurred August 30, 1853, in Canton, Bradford county, Pennsylvania, but nearly all of his life has been passed in this county. In the excellent public schools of LaSalle he acquired a good education, and soon after arriving at his majority he turned his attention to the same line of business which has occupied his time until the present day. Having mastered the details of brick-manufacturing, he carried on a plant of his own for several years in LaSalle. In 1882 he sold out and coming to Utica entered the employ of the Utica Fire Brick Company, with which concern he is yet connected. Gradually he worked his way upward in the business until he was made superintendent of the company's works, large responsibilities resting upon his shoulders. In 1893 the factory was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt in a better style than formerly and reopened in June, 1899, and with increased accommodations and facilities a finer grade of brick is turned out than ever before. The works were established by A. T. Griffin, in 1882, and for years this has been regarded as one of the important local industries, employment being afforded to a number of men.

On the 2d of February, 1881, Mr. Davison married Miss Ella F. Griffin, the eldest daughter of A. T. Griffin and wife, Mary H., whose parents were Edward and Eva Holland. The children blessing the union

of our subject and wife are Blanche, Mary, Blythe and William T. Mrs. Davison died September 3, 1899.

The cause of education is one near to the heart of Mr. Davison, as it should be to every patriotic American. He has served as the president of the Utica school board for two terms and at present occupies this responsible position. Politically he is an ardent Republican, and fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Mystic Workers. He has served one term as the mayor of Utica and two terms as an alderman.

FRANK J. BLISS, D. V. S.

For more than a score of years Dr. Frank J. Bliss has been successfully engaged in practice as a veterinary surgeon, and since 1872 has been a resident of Earlville, LaSalle county, where he is well and favorably known. He possesses an excellent education and is thoroughly experienced in his chosen field of labor.

John Bliss, the paternal grandfather of the Doctor, was a farmer and noted for the fine horses which he raised. He was in the service during the second war with England, and died at Royalton, Vermont, when over ninety years of age. He was the father of twelve children, to each of whom he gave good advantages for that period. His father, John Bliss, Sr., was a native of England, and was a pioneer farmer in Vermont. During the struggle of the colonies with the mother country he joined the army of Washington, and aided in establishing the independence of the United States. He married Rebecca Hutchinson and lived to extreme old age, dying when in his ninety-ninth year. He was the father of seventeen sons and daughters, and from him are descended many bearing the name of Bliss. The maternal grandfather of our subject, David Nichols, married Abigail Winslow, of the celebrated family who were passengers on the Mayflower, and eleven children were born of their union. David Nichols was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his brother William was an aide on the staff of General Gates at the time of Burgoyne's surrender. By occupation David Nichols was a farmer, and at the time of his death he had reached the venerable age of ninety-one years, while his wife was in her eighty-ninth year when she was called to the silent land. His father, Abraham Nichols, also lived to extreme old age, dying when almost a centenarian. His home was in Rehoboth, Rhode Island, and his numerous sons and daughters and their posterity went to various localities in this country. A worthy example was set by him as a patriot and citizen, and his loyal services in the war of the Revolution are gratefully remembered.

The parents of the Doctor were Carlton P. and Maria (Nichols) Bliss, both natives of Vermont. The father, a gentleman of superior education and attainments, was a graduate of the Middlebury (Vermont) College, and was an expert civil engineer. In his early manhood he went to the south and for a number of years divided his time between Savannah, Georgia; St. Augustine, Florida, and a place called Double Branches, in Georgia, his winters being passed at the two first mentioned points. Later he was in the employ of the government as a superintendent of harbor and drainage construction and improvements. His last years were passed in his native state, where he carried on a farm in the vicinity of Randolph, Orange county. There he died, in 1883, when in his seventy-ninth year, and his devoted wife did not long survive him, as she was laid to rest in the quiet cemetery within a month after his death, she being sixty-three years of age. Both were consistent members of the Congregational church, and for many years he acted in the office of deacon. In his home township he was called upon to hold nearly all of the local offices, and for a score of years he was a selectman, transacting the general business of the district. For a period he occupied the chair of mathematics in Dartmouth College, and the cause of education was ever dear to his heart. Thus it may be seen that he was a leader both by nature and training, a power for good in his community. To himself and wife three children were born, Frank J. being the only son. Mary J. is the widow of Mason J. Howland, and is now a resident of Box Butte, Nebraska, as is also the younger sister, Emma Adelia, wife of Henry Gilberts.

The birth of Dr. F. J. Bliss occurred in Savannah, Georgia, October 1, 1852, and until his tenth year he lived in the south. His elementary education was obtained of a private tutor, an old Presbyterian minister, and after he returned with his parents to New England he received excellent training in the public schools, and in 1874 was graduated in the Vermont State University. Desiring to enter the medical profession, the young man then pursued a course of study in the Burlington Medical College, and afterward attended a series of lectures in the old New York Veterinary College. Being convinced that the west is a better field for a young practitioner, he located in Milwaukee, where for two years he was engaged in veterinary work. In 1872 he removed to Earlville, where he soon built up an excellent practice, and has remained. He belongs to the State Veterinary Society of Illinois, and keeps thoroughly abreast of all progress in his particular line of work. He has made good investments in real estate, and at the present time is the owner of an entire block of Earlville property and three paying farms,—one in Nebraska, one in Missouri, and one in Kansas, aggregating seven hundred and sixty acres. Politically he is a Republican, and fraternally an Odd Fellow.

The marriage of Dr. Bliss and Miss Isabel Rubdew was celebrated June 28, 1876. She is a daughter of Alexander and Julia (Pelca) Rubdew, who were early settlers of Earl township, LaSalle county, coming here from their former home in Vermont. The Doctor and wife have one child, named Gertrude Frances.

J. J. CARTER.

J. J. Carter, a successful farmer of Farm Ridge township, LaSalle county, was born in Wayne county, New York, February 10, 1841. He is of Scotch descent, his first ancestor in this country having been one of four unmarried brothers who came to America about 1650, one locating in Virginia, one in Philadelphia, and two in the Empire state. Some of their descendants were soldiers in the war for independence, while others bearing the name were actively engaged in the war of 1812.

Asa, father of J. J. Carter, was born in New York state, the son of a hero of the second war with England. He married Hannah Braymer, of the same state, daughter of a thrifty Pennsylvania German. In 1844 they removed to Will county, Illinois, and four years later came to this township, where the parents continued to dwell until called to their reward, the father dying at the age of sixty-five years, and the mother at sixty-seven years. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They had seven children, of whom one daughter, Fannie, is deceased. The others are: Edwin, of Iowa; Charles, of this township; J. J.; Mrs. Almira Gillespie, of Nebraska; Mrs. Janet Singer, of Ottawa; and Allen, of Nebraska.

From his earliest recollections, J. J. Carter has been familiar with farming, in its various branches. His energetic efforts to acquire a competence met with due reward, and for many years he has been one of the well-to-do farmers of this township. He owns a quarter section of finely improved land, part of the old homestead. This place is a very desirable one, as it has good barns, a comfortable residence, orchard, fine pastures and fertile fields, all in excellent condition. In addition to this farm he owns another, at Red Lake, Minnesota.

In 1862 Mr. Carter married Miss Mary Ann Reese, daughter of A. G. and Caroline (Helm) Reese, both of whom are deceased. The eldest born child of Mr. and Mrs. Carter is Melvin, of Fort Dodge, Iowa. He married a Miss Rambler, and has three children. Ora, eldest daughter of Mr. Carter, is the wife of George Scherrer, of Alexis, Illinois. Carrie is a successful teacher of music; and Edna and Nellie are still at home. Ellen died at the age of eighteen months, Josephine at twelve years, and Laura at the age of sixteen years.

Politically Mr. Carter is a Democrat, and has served in a number of township offices, with credit. His means and influence are liberally used in the support of schools and churches, the temperance cause and other movements calculated to uplift and benefit humanity. He and his estimable wife are devoted members and active workers in the Methodist Episcopal church, he having acted as one of the officials of the congregation. Integrity and justice characterize all of his dealings with his fellow men and all unite in praise of his honorable, upright life.

VINCENT SCHWEICKERT.

An honored citizen of Peru is he of whom this sketch is penned. For forty-two years he has been a resident of this flourishing town, which bore little resemblance to its present proud pre-eminence when he first beheld it, a straggling hamlet. He may justly feel that he has borne his share in the making of the place, for many of the substantial public and private buildings here stand as monuments to his skill and excellent workmanship, and Peru is proud to acknowledge the debt she owes him.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was George Adam Schweickert, a farmer of Baden, Germany, where he resided until his death, at the age of seventy-six years. He had five daughters and two sons, and one of the sons was Jacob, the father of Vincent Schweickert. He was born in the last year of the eighteenth century, and plied his trade as a bleacher of cloth for some years, later engaging in agriculture and giving a part of his time to the raising of silk-worms. He died in 1871, and was survived but two years by his devoted wife, Philopena, who was seventy-three at the time of her death. She was one of the four children of August Lindenmeyer, who lived in the village of Kerrlach, Baden, and who fought in one of the wars of Germany with Austria. He was eighty-four years old at the time of his demise, in 1835. But three of the ten children of Jacob and Philopena Schweickert are living. Regina is the wife of Emanuel Schermotty, of Wiesenthal, Baden, Germany, and Francis Xavier resides in the same town.

A native of the German village just mentioned, Vincent Schweickert was born August 24, 1831. After completing his common-school education he worked in a sugar refinery until 1850, when he turned his attention to mastering the brick and stone mason's trade. In 1853 he sailed for the United States, the land of promise, and for the next three years he made his home in Reading, Pennsylvania. Since then he has dwelt in Peru, and until he was obliged to retire on account of advancing years and the rheu-

matism, he kept busily employed as a builder and contractor. Perfect confidence was placed in his integrity and capability, and his customers invariably recommended his work.

On the 15th of May, 1855, Mr. Schweickert married Mary Wellner, who was born in Bavaria, Germany. Her parents were Michael and Barbara (Busch) Wellner. She and her first husband came to America and settled in Pennsylvania. Here our subject and wife were married and in 1856 came to Peru, where they have lived for thirty years in their comfortable home, which was erected by him in 1869. They are members of the Catholic church, and in his political faith Mr. Schweickert is independent.

Seven sons and two daughters blessed the marriage of this worthy couple, and of this number two, Jacob and Edward, are deceased. Charles A. married Theresa Domas, who died, leaving four children—Charles, Mary, Lizzie and Anton. Subsequently he married Theresa Beckmann, by whom he had six children, but only one survives. Mary, who became the wife of Peter Weyand, had six children—Bernard, Peter, Vincent, Charles, Francis Xavier, and one who is deceased. Henry E. wedded Lizzie Ellerbrock, and their children are Vincent, Peter Philip Muria, Henry Charles Anton Alexander, Mary Francisca, Hildegard and Mary Beatrice. Jacob married Helena Morschauser and their surviving children are named Helena, Bertram, Frank and Margaret. Lizzie became the wife of Frank Ellerbrock, and their three children are Lizzie, William and Peter. Bertram and wife, whose maiden name was Mary Brinkmann, have two sons, Ewald Vincent Frank and Lawrence Henry Thomas. Francis Xavier married Mary Weyand, and their only child is called Martha. Thus it may be seen that many children and grandchildren of our subject and wife are left to cheer their declining days, and on numerous festal occasions they assemble to spend a happy day or evening together.

CHARLES A. SCHWEICKERT.

Charles Anthony Schweickert is one of the enterprising business men of Peru, prominent in commercial, fraternal and political circles and highly esteemed for his sterling qualities and public spirit. A son of our well-known citizens, Vincent and Maria Schweickert, he was born in this town two-score years ago, the date of his birth being February 17, 1859.

Growing to manhood in Peru, our subject was a pupil in the parochial schools and completed his education in Saint Patrick's Academy, at LaSalle. He was a boy of twelve or thirteen years when he did his first work as a stone and brick mason, under his father's instruction, and from that time until the present he has devoted much of his attention to this line of business. In 1895

he purchased the Peru Steam Laundry, which he operated until December, 1898, then selling out. Returning to his old trade, in which his father and brothers as well as himself are expert, it is now his intention to follow no other occupation henceforth. He is a partner in the firm of Schweickert Brothers & Company, which comprises the five brothers, Charles A., Henry, Jacob, Bertram and Francis, and their brother-in-law, Frank Ellerbrock. Much of the heavy masonry of Peru has been done by them, and their work has not been exclusively local, for monuments of their skill may be seen in many other towns of this county, and they execute contracts for foundations for bridges and similar public works. Reliability, promptness and thoroughness in all work entrusted to them may be confidently expected, as they bear an enviable reputation and endeavor to please their patrons in every respect.

The commodious, substantial two-story brick house which Charles A. Schweickert owns and occupies was erected by him in 1885. He was married September 6, 1883, to Miss Theresa Domas, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Magdalena Domas. She died November 12, 1892, when in her twenty-ninth year, and left four children to mourn her loss, namely: Charles Henry, Mary Theresa, Elizabeth Margaret and Vincent Anthony. On the 4th of April, 1893, Mr. Schweickert and Miss Theresa Beckmann were united in marriage. She is a daughter of Bernhard and Theresa (Imoor) Beckmann, and by her union with our subject has six children, only one of whom, Leonore, is living. The parents are members of the Catholic church. He is connected with St. Joseph's Catholic Benevolent Society and is a member of the Twin City Band. In his political opinions he is a Democrat.

PERRY FARNHAM.

The gentleman whose name appears above was one of the oldest and best known citizens in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he resided after 1856.

Mr. Farnham was born in Marseilles, Onondaga county, New York, September 7, 1815, a son of Amasa and Rachel (Perry) Farnham. Amasa Farnham was a native of Massachusetts, a son of Reuben Farnham, who was a Revolutionary soldier. The latter moved from Massachusetts to Vermont and subsequently to New York. The family were poor and the father of our subject when a boy was "bound out," and at the age of fifteen went as a bound boy to New York state, where he grew to manhood and married. His first wife died when their son Perry was two years old, and, besides him, left four other children—Hiram, John, Alice and Sophia. The father was afterward married again, and in New York spent the rest of his life and died.

His father a farmer, the subject of our sketch was reared to agricultural

pursuits, remaining a member of the home circle until he was twenty-two years old. He then hired out as a farm hand, and not long afterward went to Ridgeway, New York, and secured a position as a clerk in a store, in which capacity he served four years. After his marriage, which event occurred in the spring of 1842, he engaged in farming in Cayuga county, New York, and gave his attention to agricultural pursuits there for twelve years. On coming to LaSalle county, Illinois, in 1856, he first settled in Ophir township, where he soon ranked with its successful farmers and where he lived until 1888, when he moved to Earlville, and here lived retired till his death occurred. He disposed of his home farm, but owned eighty acres in Iowa at the time of his death.

Mr. Farnham was married in April, 1842, to Miss Mary Ann Bishop, who died in 1860, leaving two children: Don B., still at home, and Dorr B., engaged in farming in Iowa. July 27, 1863, Mr. Farnham married Miss Nancy McGregor, a native of Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, born February 1, 1823, a daughter of James McGregor. Her father and brother Joseph came to Illinois and settled in LaSalle county in 1852, and she joined them here in 1857.

Mr. Farnham was a hard worker all his life, and it was to his energy and his good management that his success in life was due. Politically he was a Republican. July 23, 1899, he passed to the great beyond, leaving a widow and two sons to mourn his loss; and numerous friends hold him in affectionate memory.

GEORGE W. McCOMBS.

A popular citizen of Farm Ridge township is he of whom this sketch is penned. He is a native of German township, Fayette county, Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred June 9, 1846. His parents, John and Mary J. (Gallagher) McCombs, were members of the agricultural class, and were noted for their sterling honesty, integrity and good citizenship generally. They likewise were natives of Fayette county, where they resided during their entire lives, respected and loved by those who knew them best. The father, who was born in 1809, died at the age of seventy-four years, in 1883, and the mother, born in 1818, departed this life in 1851. He was a Republican in his political creed, but was not an aspirant for public office, preferring to devote his whole attention to his business affairs and his little home circle. He set a worthy example to his children and his sons were thoroughly and systematically trained in correct business principles and in love of their country and their fellow men. Of his eleven children, two died when young

and the others were named as follows: Margaret, Hannah, Elizabeth, Anne, George W., Mary, William, John A. and James Clark.

George W. McCombs was reared on the old homestead in the Keystone state, and was educated in the public schools of the vicinity. Believing that the west afforded greater opportunities to a young man desirous of success, he came to LaSalle county in 1866. For one year he lived upon the Finley farm. September 11, 1866, he bought the S. P. Crouch farm, in Grand Rapids township, where he resided until 1876, when he purchased the John McCormick farm. This place, which has since been his home, comprises one hundred and sixty acres of rich, productive land, excellent pastures, rivaling the celebrated blue-grass meadows of Kentucky, and a substantial house and barns, windmill, fences, fine shade-trees and orchard are among the features which render this a model country home. The thrifty owner pays special attention to the raising of high-grade live stock, and on his farm there may always be found fine Jersey cattle, Poland-China swine and Percheron and various standard horses. In all of his farming methods Mr. McCombs is progressive and practical, and the success which he has wrought out is well deserved.

Physically he is large and well proportioned, as, though he is six feet and two inches in height, he weighs two hundred and thirty pounds. In manner he is cheerful and optimistic, making the best of life and persistently looking upon the bright side of things. In several of the local offices he has served the people in an acceptable manner, and in his political creed he is a Republican. The family belongs to the Presbyterian church.

In 1870 the marriage of Mr. McCombs and Miss Martha J. Woodward was solemnized. She was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Joseph Woodward, and has been a faithful helpmate, ably seconding the plans made by her husband. They became the parents of six children, namely: Louvica A., John T., Nellie B., Maud H., Mabel, and Edward, who died when about two years of age. John T. married Anna K. Lehr, and is a well-to-do citizen of Grand Rapids township, this county.

JAMES A. POWELL.

One of the native sons of Illinois and for years an esteemed citizen of LaSalle county has ever been ready and willing to do his share as a patriot, whether in time of peace or in war. He stands deservedly high as a business man, neighbor and friend, and is very popular with all classes.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Howell F. Powell, a native

of Wales. He crossed the broad Atlantic about 1816 and made his home in or near Boston. He had mastered the gardener's business, and after settling in New England gave his attention for some years to supplying a summer resort. He lived to attain an advanced age. He was the father of four daughters and two sons, one of whom was William H., the father of our subject. He was likewise a native of Wales and in his early manhood he learned the trade of wood-carving and upholstering. In 1837 he came to Illinois and bought a tract of land from the government. He reared his children on that place and it was not until 1896 that he retired and located in Mendota, where he is now passing in quietude the remainder of his days. For thirty years he served in the capacity of justice of the peace, and for three-score years he occupied an influential place in his own community. His first wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Warner and was a native of Massachusetts, died in 1865. Her father, George Warner, was born in England, and upon his arrival in America took up his abode in the Bay state, where he worked at his trade as a weaver until he came to Illinois, some sixty years ago. He located near Northville, LaSalle county, and engaged in farming there for many years. Later he returned to Massachusetts, where he died at the age of eighty-five years. Three sons and a daughter were born to William H. and Elizabeth Powell: James A., the subject of this sketch; Marshall F., now deceased; Mary, wife of H. C. Ballou; and William H., Jr. The second wife of William H. Powell was Sophronia McNett, and their two children were Frank B. and Mabel.

James A. Powell was born in Northville, LaSalle county, August 29, 1844, and passed his boyhood in the usual pursuits of farmers' lads, a portion of his time being devoted to the acquisition of an education in the district schools, after which he taught school several years during the winter seasons. When the civil war broke out he was too young to be enlisted in the ranks, but he was a stanch patriot and at length was permitted to enter the army, where he was ever found at his post of duty. He was a member of Company C, One Hundred and Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for one year, and made an excellent record as a soldier. After the war he returned to Illinois and began farming in Kankakee county for the ensuing five years. Then, going to Harmon, Lee county, Illinois, he purchased a farm, which he carried on at that place successfully for a period of eleven years. A favorable opportunity for disposing of the farm then presenting itself, Mr. Powell sold the farm and returning to this, his native county, invested in an eighty-acre farm situated conveniently near Mendota, only half a mile east of the town. This farm he sold at the end of five years, and, going to Nebraska, bought a larger farm, but did not locate there. Two years later he sold his western property at a good profit and invested some of his capital in the

dairy business, which he has carried on with growing success for the past decade. His fertile farm, well adapted for pasturage, comprises eighty-six and a half acres, located in Mendota township, adjoining the city of Mendota, and is one of the pleasantest and most attractive locations in the vicinity of that city.

The marriage of Mr. Powell and Miss Eliza McNett took place on the 22d of July, 1870. She is a daughter of Daniel and Mary McNett, and by her marriage has two promising sons,—Charles D. and Claude A. Charles is engaged in the mercantile business, while Claude is helping to conduct the dairy business.

Fraternally Mr. Powell is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Court of Honor, and in politics he is a true-blue Republican. For nine years he served as a highway commissioner, was clerk of the town for two years and for one year served as a collector. Mrs. Powell is a member of the Methodist church, and they are both liberal contributors to all worthy local charities.

WILLIAM R. BENNETT.

Deer Park township, LaSalle county, Illinois, has its full share of enterprising, up-to-date farmers, and among them none are more worthy of special mention in a work of this character than is William Ralph Bennett.

Mr. Bennett was born in the township in which he now lives, October 31, 1856, the eldest of the three sons of Isaac H. Bennett. The second son, Arthur E., is now a resident of Los Angeles, California, and the youngest, Rev. Milton G., resides at Clarion, Iowa. William R. was reared in his native township, on his father's farm, and with the exception of one year spent in Iowa, where he moved with his parents in the early '70s, he has never resided outside of Deer Park township. He remained with his father, assisting in the work of the farm and contributing to the common purse, until he reached his majority. At the age of twenty-four he married and settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies and which, under his management, is being successfully conducted and shows evidence of thrift and prosperity.

Mrs. Bennett was formerly Miss Belle Follett, and was born in 1859, in LaSalle county, Illinois, her father, James Follett, a well known farmer of this county, having come here in 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have four children: Walter Ray, Florence, Louise and Follett F.

Mr. Bennett's traits of character are well known to the citizens of Deer Park township. He has been their collector of taxes and has given

them faithful service. His opinions and counsels are respected on matters affecting the welfare of his town and his standing as a business man is above question or suspicion. He has the same regard for right in doing things politically that he has in the every-day affairs of life.

FRANK J. PATTERSON, L. D. S.

Mendota, Illinois, has its quota of professional men, and prominent among them is the subject of this sketch, Frank J. Patterson, who has been engaged in the practice of dentistry here for the past six years.

Dr. Patterson is a Canadian by birth and education. He was born in Glasgow, Canada, March 12, 1860, a son of Dr. Elijah and Martha (Pearson) Patterson, both natives of Canada. The Pattersons have long been residents of Canada, to which place, it is supposed, they went from Vermont. The Pearsons are of English origin, the first representatives of the family having come from England to America in 1833 and settled in Upper Canada. Dr. Elijah Patterson has for a number of years been engaged in the practice of dentistry at Toronto, Canada.

Following in the footsteps of his father, Frank J. chose the dental profession. He was reared in Port Perry, to which place his parents moved when he was a child, and where he completed a high-school course and graduated in 1875. That same year he matriculated in the Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Toronto, and pursued his studies there for a time, following which he operated in his father's office until 1879. He then re-entered the same college, and is a graduate with its class of 1882. From the time of his graduation until 1893 he was engaged in practice in Toronto, and since January of the latter year he has been identified with the interests of Mendota, Illinois, and engaged in a successful practice here, having succeeded Dr. J. D. Moody.

Dr. Patterson was married in 1880 to Miss Roby N. Kelley, of Oshawa, Ontario, and their happy union has been blessed in the birth of two children, the older one dying in infancy, and the younger, Greta N., is living.

Fraternally Dr. Patterson has a membership in the I. O. O. F. and Foresters.

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